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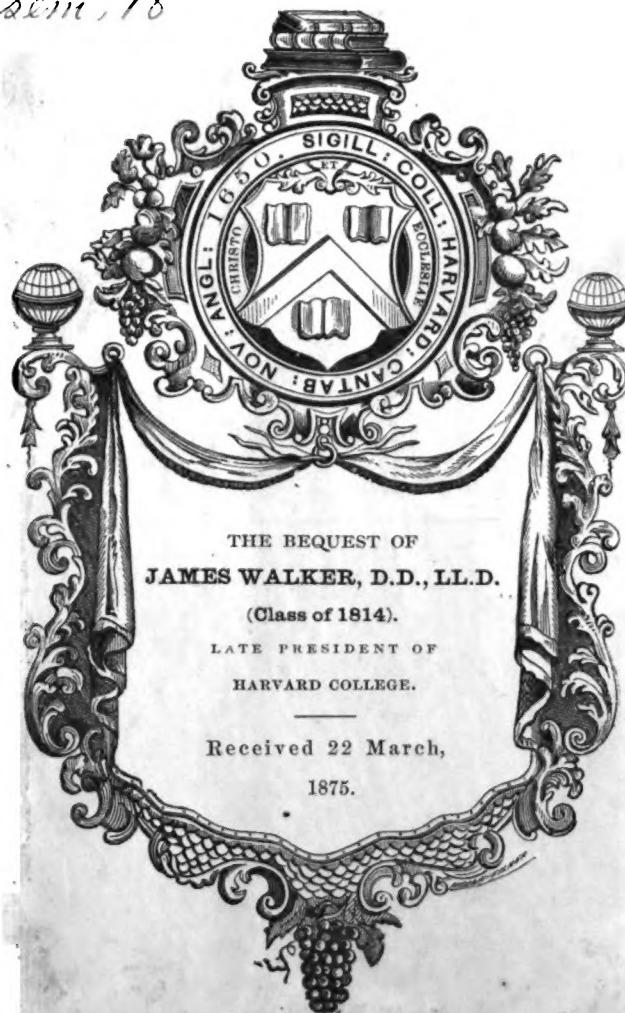
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THE
HOLY SCRIPTURES
OF THE
OLD COVENANT.

VOLUME II.

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THE
HOLY SCRIPURES
OF THE
OLD COVENANT,
IN
A REVISED TRANSLATION,

BY
THE LATE REV. CHARLES WELLBELOVED,
THE REV. GEORGE VANCE SMITH, B.A.,
THE REV. JOHN SCOTT PORTER.

VOLUME II.

CONTAINING

THE TWO BOOKS OF SAMUEL, BY THE REV. G. VANCE
SMITH, B.A.;
THE TWO BOOKS OF THE KINGS, AND THE TWO BOOKS OF
THE CHRONICLES, BY THE REV. J. SCOTT PORTER;
THE BOOKS OF EZRA, NEHEMIAH, AND ESTHER, BY THE
REV. G. VANCE SMITH, B.A.;
THE BOOK OF JOB AND THE PSALMS, BY THE LATE REV.
CHARLES WELLBELOVED.

C L O N D O N :
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President of Harv. Univ.

THE FIRST BOOK OF SAMUEL.

- 1 CHAP. I.—Now there was a certain man of Ramathaim-zophim, of mount Ephraim, and his name was Elkanah, the son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the son
2 of Zuph, an Ephrathite: and he had two wives; the name of the one was Hannah, and the name of the other Peninnah: and Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children.
- 3 And this man went up out of his city yearly to worship and to sacrifice unto Jehovah of hosts in Shiloh. And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, the priests of Jehovah, were there. And on the day when Elkanah sacrificed, he gave to Peninnah his wife, and to all her sons and her
4 daughters, portions: but unto Hannah he gave a double portion; for he loved Hannah; but Jehovah had shut up her
5 womb. And her adversary also provoked her greatly, so as to make her fret, because Jehovah had shut up her womb.
6 And as he did so year by year, as often as she went up to the house of Jehovah, so she provoked her; therefore she
7 wept, and did not eat. Then said Elkanah her husband to her, “Hannah, Why weepest thou? and why eatest thou not? and why is thy heart troubled? am not I better to thee than ten sons?”
- 8 So Hannah rose up after they had eaten in Shiloh, and after they had drunk. Now Eli the priest sat upon a seat
9 by a door-post of the temple of Jehovah. And she was grieved in soul, and prayed unto Jehovah, and wept much.
10 And she vowed a vow, and said, “O Jehovah of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thy handmaid, and re-
- (| VOL. II. B

member me, and not forget thy handmaid, but will give unto thy handmaid a man-child, then I will give him unto Jehovah all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head."

And it came to pass, as she often prayed before Jehovah, 12 that Eli observed her mouth. Now Hannah, she spake in 13 her heart ; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard: therefore Eli thought she had been drunken. And Eli said 14 unto her, " How long wilt thou be drunken ? putt away thy wine from thee." And Hannah answered and said, " No, 15 my lord, I am a woman of a sorrowful spirit ; I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but have poured out my soul before Jehovah. Count not thy handmaid for a daughter 16 of Belial ; for out of the greatness of my sorrow and my grief have I spoken hitherto." Then Eli answered and said, 17 " Go in peace ; and the God of Israel grant *thee* thy petition which thou hast asked of him." And she said, " Let 18 thy handmaid find favour in thy sight." So the woman went her way, and did eat, and her countenance was no more sad.

And they rose up in the morning early, and worshipped 19 before Jehovah, and returned, and came to their house to Ramah ; and Elkanah knew Hannah his wife ; and Jehovah remembered her. Wherefore it came to pass, when the time 20 was come about after Hannah had conceived, that she bare a son, and called his name Samuel [HEARD of GOD], saying, " Because I have asked him of Jehovah."

And the man Elkanah, and all his house, went up to offer 21 unto Jehovah the yearly sacrifice, and his vow. But Han- 22 nah went not up; for she said unto her husband, " I will not go up until the child be weaned, and then I will bring him, that he may appear before Jehovah, and there remain for ever." And Elkanah her husband said unto her, " Do what 23 seemeth to thee good ; remain until thou have weaned him ; only Jehovah establish his word." So the woman remained, and gave her son suck until she weaned him.

And when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, 24 with a bullock of three years old, and one ephah of flour, and a skin of wine, and brought him unto the house of Je- 25 hovah in Shiloh : and the child was young. And they slew the bullock, and brought the child to Eli. And she said, 26 " O my lord, as thy soul liveth, my lord, I am the woman that stood by thee here, to pray unto Jehovah. For this 27

child I prayed ; and Jehovah hath given me my petition
 28 which I asked of him ; therefore also I have given him up
 to Jehovah ; as long as he liveth he shall be given up to Je-
 hovah." And they worshipped Jehovah there.

- 1 CHAP. II.—And Hannah prayed, and said,
 " My heart rejoiceth in Jehovah,
 My horn is exalted in Jehovah ;
 My mouth is enlarged over mine enemies ;
 Because I rejoice in thy salvation.
 2 There is none holy as Jehovah ;
 For there is none beside thee ;
 And no rock like our God.
 3 Talk no more so exceeding proudly ;
 Nor let arrogance come out of your mouth ;
 For Jehovah is a God of knowledge,
 And by him actions are weighed.
 4 The bows of mighty men are broken,
 And they that stumbled are girded with strength.
 5 They that were full have hired out themselves for bread ;
 And they that were hungry have ceased ;
 So that the barren hath borne seven ;
 And she that hath many children is grown feeble.
 6 Jehovah killeth and maketh alive ;
 He bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up.
 7 Jehovah maketh poor, and maketh rich ;
 He bringeth low, and liftest up.
 8 He raiseth up the feeble out of the dust,
 He liftest up the needy from the dunghill,
 To set them among princes,
 And to make them inherit a seat of glory ;
 For the pillars of the earth are Jehovah's,
 And he hath set the world upon them.
 9 He will keep the feet of his saints,
 And the wicked shall be silent in darkness ;
 For not by strength shall man prevail.
 10 The adversaries of Jehovah shall be broken to pieces ;
 In heaven shall he thunder upon them ;
 Jehovah shall judge the ends of the earth ;
 And he shall give strength to his king,
 And exalt the horn of his anointed."
- 11 And Elkanah went to Ramah to his house. And the child did minister unto Jehovah before Eli the priest.

I. SAMUEL, II.

Now the sons of Eli were sons of Belial ; they regarded 12 not Jehovah. And the priests' custom with the people was, 13 that, when any man offered sacrifice, the priest's servant came, while the flesh was boiling, with a fleshhook of three teeth in his hand ; and he struck it into the pan, or kettle, 14 or caldron, or pot ; all that the fleshhook brought up the priest took for himself. So they did in Shiloh unto all the Israelites that came thither. Also before they burnt the fat, 15 the priest's servant came, and said to the man that sacrificed, " Give flesh to roast for the priest ; for he will not have boiled flesh of thee, but raw." And if the man said unto 16 him, " They will burn the fat presently, then take as thy soul desireth ;" then he would answer him, " Nay ; but thou shalt give it now ; and if not, I will take it by force." Wherefore the sin of the young men was very great before 17 Jehovah ; for men abhorred the offering of Jehovah.

But Samuel ministered before Jehovah, *being* a child, 18 girded with a linen ephod. Moreover his mother made him 19 a little robe, and brought it to him from year to year, when she came up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. And Eli blessed Elkanah and his wife, and said, " Jehovah 20 give thee offspring of this woman instead of that which she asked for, which is given up to Jehovah." And they went unto their own home. And Jehovah visited Hannah, so 21 that she conceived, and bare three sons and two daughters. And the child Samuel grew before Jehovah.

Now Eli was very old, and heard all that his sons did unto 22 all Israel ; and how they lay with the women that served at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. And he 23 said unto them, " Why do ye such deeds ? for I hear of your evil deeds from all this people. Nay, my sons ; for it 24 is no good report that I hear ; ye make Jehovah's people to transgress. If one man sin against another, God shall 25 judge him ; and if a man sin against Jehovah, who shall entreat for him ?" But they hearkened not unto the voice of their father, because it pleased Jehovah to slay them.

And the child Samuel grew on, and was in favour both 26 with Jehovah, and also with men.

And there came a man of God unto Eli, and said unto 27 him, " Thus saith Jehovah, ' Did I not plainly reveal myself unto the house of thy father, when they were in Egypt in Pharaoh's house ? And did I not choose him out of all the 28 tribes of Israel to be my priest, to offer upon mine altar, to

burn incense, to wear an ephod before me? and did I *not* give unto the house of thy father all the offerings by fire of
 29 the children of Israel? wherefore trample ye on my sacrifice and on mine offering, which I have commanded *in my* habitation; and honourest thy sons above me, to make yourselves fat with the best of all the offerings of Israel my
 30 people?' Wherefore Jehovah God of Israel saith, 'I said indeed that thy house, and the house of thy father, should walk before me for ever:' but now Jehovah saith, 'Be it far from me: for them that honour me I will honour, and they
 31 that despise me shall be lightly esteemed. Behold, the days come, that I will cut off thine arm, and the arm of thy father's house, that there shall not be an old man in thy
 32 house. And thou shalt see adversity *in thy* habitation, in all wherein Israel shall be prospered; and there shall not be an
 33 old man in thy house for ever. And the man of thine, whom I shall not cut off from mine altar, shall be to consume thine eyes, and to grieve thy soul: and all the increase of thy
 34 house shall die *when they are* men. And that which shall come upon thy two sons, on Hophni and Phinehas, shall be the sign unto thee; in one day they shall die both of them.
 35 And I will raise me up a faithful priest, who shall do according to what is in my heart and in my soul; and I will build him a durable house; and he shall walk before mine anointed
 36 for ever. And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left in thy house shall come *and* bow down to him for a piece of silver and a cake of bread, and shall say, Put me, I pray thee, into one of the priest's offices, that I may eat a morsel of bread.'"

1 CHAP. III.—And the child Samuel ministered unto Jehovah before Eli. And the word of Jehovah was rare in
 2 those days; vision was not frequent. And it came to pass at that time, that Eli was lying down in his place; and his
 3 eyes began to grow dim, *that* he could not see; and before the lamp of God went out, when Samuel was lying down, in
 4 the temple of Jehovah, where the ark of God was, then Jehovah called unto Samuel: and he answered, "Here am I."
 5 And he ran unto Eli, and said, "Here am I; for thou callest me." And he said, "I called not; lie down again." And
 6 he went and lay down. And Jehovah called yet again, "Samuel." And Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, "Here am I; for thou didst call me." And he answered,

"I called not, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know Jehovah, neither was the word of Jehovah yet revealed unto him. And Jehovah called Samuel again the third time. And he arose, and went to Eli, and said, "Here am I; for thou didst call me." And Eli perceived that Jehovah had called the child. Therefore Eli said unto Samuel, "Go, lie down: and it shall be, if he call unto thee, that thou shalt say, 'Speak, Jehovah; for thy servant heareth.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. And Jehovah came, and stood, and called as before, "Samuel, Samuel." Then Samuel said, "Speak; for thy servant heareth."

And Jehovah said to Samuel, "Behold, I will do a thing in Israel, at which both the ears of every one that heareth it shall tingle. In that day I will perform against Eli all that I have spoken against his house, from the beginning to the end. For I have told him that I will judge his house for ever for the iniquity which he knoweth; because his sons made themselves accursed and he restrained them not. And therefore I have sworn unto the house of Eli, that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated with sacrifice nor meal-offering for ever."

And Samuel lay until the morning, and opened the doors of the house of Jehovah. And Samuel feared to tell the vision unto Eli. Then Eli called Samuel, and said, "Samuel, my son." And he said, "Here am I." And he said, "What is the thing that hath been spoken unto thee? I pray thee hide it not from me; God do so to thee, and more also, if thou hide a word from me of every thing that he hath spoken unto thee." And Samuel told him every word, and hid nothing from him. And he said, "It is Jehovah: let him do what seemeth to him good."

And Samuel grew, and Jehovah was with him, and did let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan even to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was established as a prophet of Jehovah. And Jehovah appeared again in Shiloh; for Jehovah revealed himself to Samuel in Shiloh by the word of Jehovah. CHAP. IV.—And the word of Samuel came to all Israel.

Now Israel went out against the Philistines to battle, and encamped beside Eben-ezer; and the Philistines encamped in Aphek. And the Philistines put themselves in array against Israel; and they joined battle, and Israel was smitten

before the Philistines ; and they slew of the army in the field about four thousand men.

3 And when the people were come into the camp, the elders of Israel said, " Wherefore hath Jehovah smitten us to-day before the Philistines ? Let us take unto us the ark of the covenant of Jehovah out of Shiloh, that it may come into the midst of us and save us out of the hand of our enemies."

4 So the people sent to Shiloh, and brought from thence the ark of the covenant of Jehovah who dwelleth *between* the cherubim : and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas,
5 were there with the ark of the covenant of God. And when the ark of the covenant of Jehovah came into the camp, all Israel shouted with a great shout, so that the earth rang.

6 And when the Philistines heard the noise of the shout, they said, " What *meaneth* the noise of this great shout in the camp of the Hebrews ? " And they understood that
7 the ark of Jehovah was come into the camp. And the Philistines were afraid, for they said, " God is come into the camp." And they said, " Woe unto us ! for there hath
8 not been such a thing heretofore. Woe unto us ! who shall deliver us out of the hand of these mighty Gods ? these are the Gods that smote the Egyptians with every plague in
9 the wilderness. Take courage, and be men, O ye Philistines, that ye be not servants unto the Hebrews, as they have been to you ; yea, be men, and fight."

10 And the Philistines fought, and Israel was smitten, and they fled every man into his tent ; and there was a very great slaughter ; for there fell of Israel thirty thousand
11 footmen. And the ark of God was taken ; and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were slain.

12 And there ran a man of Benjamin out of the army, and came to Shiloh the same day with his clothes rent, and with
13 earth upon his head. And when he came, lo, Eli sat upon a seat by the wayside watching ; for his heart trembled for the ark of God. And when the man came into the city,
14 and told it, all the city cried out. And when Eli heard the noise of the crying, he said, " What *meaneth* the noise of this tumult ? " And the man came in hastily and told Eli.
15 Now Eli was ninety and eight years old ; and his eyes were
16 dim, that he could not see. And the man said unto Eli, " I am he that came out of the army, and I fled to-day out of the army." And he said, " What are the tidings, my

son?" And the messenger answered and said, "Israel hath 17 fled before the Philistines, and there hath been also a great slaughter among the people, and thy two sons also, Hophni and Phinehas, are dead, and the ark of God is taken." And it came to pass, when he made mention of the ark of 18 God, that he fell from off the seat backward by the side of the gate, and his neck was broken, and he died; for he was an old man, and heavy. And he had judged Israel forty years.

And his daughter in law, Phinehas' wife, was with child 19 near to be delivered; and when she heard the tidings that the ark of God was taken, and that her father in law and her husband were dead, she bowed herself and travailed; for her pains came upon her. And about the time of her death 20 the women that stood by her said unto her, "Fear not; for thou hast borne a son." But she answered not, neither did she regard it. And she named the child I-chabod, [NO GLORY] 21 saying, "The glory is departed from Israel;" because the ark of God was taken, and because of her father in law and her husband. And she said, "The glory is departed from Israel; 22 for the ark of God is taken."

CHAP. V.—And the Philistines took the ark of God, 1 and brought it from Eben-ezer unto Ashdod. And the 2 Philistines took the ark of God, and brought it into the house of Dagon, and placed it by Dagon. And when they 3 of Ashdod arose early on the morrow, behold, Dagon was fallen upon his face to the earth before the ark of Jehovah. And they took Dagon, and set him in his place again. And 4 when they arose early on the morrow morning, behold, Dagon was fallen upon his face to the ground before the ark of Jehovah; and the head of Dagon and both the palms of his hands were cut off upon the threshold; only the fish-shaped part was left to him. Therefore neither the priests 5 of Dagon, nor any that come into Dagon's house, tread on the threshold of Dagon in Ashdod unto this day.

And the hand of Jehovah was heavy upon them of 6 Ashdod, and he wasted them, and smote them with boils, even Ashdod and the territories thereof. And when the men 7 of Ashdod saw that it was so, they said, "The ark of the God of Israel shall not remain with us; for his hand is severe upon us, and upon Dagon our god." They sent therefore and 8 gathered all the lords of the Philistines unto them, and said,

"What shall we do with the ark of the God of Israel?" And they answered, "Let the ark of the God of Israel be carried to Gath." And they carried the ark of the God of Israel *thither*. And it came to pass, after they had carried it, that the hand of Jehovah was upon the city with very great consternation; and he smote the men of the city, both small and great, and boils broke out upon them.

10 Therefore they sent the ark of God to Ekron. And it came to pass, as the ark of God came to Ekron, that the Ekronites cried out, saying, "They have brought the ark of the God of Israel to us, to slay us and our people." So they sent and gathered together all the lords of the Philistines, and said, "Send away the ark of the God of Israel, and let it go again to its own place, that it slay us not, and our people;" for there was deadly consternation throughout 12 all the city; the hand of God was very heavy there. And the men that died not were smitten with the boils: and the cry of the city went up to heaven.

1 CHAP. VI.—And the ark of Jehovah was in the country 2 of the Philistines seven months. And the Philistines called for the priests and the diviners, saying, "What shall we do to the ark of Jehovah? tell us wherewith we shall send it 3 to its place." And they said, "If ye send away the ark of the God of Israel, send it not empty; but in any wise return him a trespass-offering; then ye shall be healed, and it shall be known to you why his hand is not removed from you." 4 Then said they, "What shall be the trespass-offering which we shall return to him?" And they said, "Five golden boils, and five golden mice, according to the number of the lords of the Philistines; for one plague was on you all, and on your 6 lords. Wherefore ye shall make images of your boils, and images of your mice that destroy the land; and ye shall give glory unto the God of Israel: peradventure he will lighten his hand from off you, and from off your gods, and 8 from off your land. Wherefore then do ye harden your hearts, as the Egyptians and Pharaoh hardened their hearts? when he had wrought wonderfully among them, did they not 7 let the people go, and they departed? Now therefore make a new wagon, and take two milch kine, on which there hath come no yoke, and bind the kine to the wagon, and bring their calves home from them: and take the ark of Jehovah, and lay it upon the wagon; and put the jewels of

gold, which ye return him for a trespass-offering, in a coffer by the side thereof; and send it away, that it may go. And see, if it goeth up by the way of its own border to Beth-shemesh, *then* he hath done us this great evil; but if not, then we shall know that it is not his hand that smote us; it was a chance that happened to us."

And the men did so; and took two milch kine and bound them to the wagon, and shut up their calves at home; and they laid the ark of Jehovah upon the wagon, and the coffer with the mice of gold and the images of their boils. And the kine took the straight way on the way to Beth-shemesh; they went along the highway, lowing as they went, and turned not aside to the right hand or the left; and the lords of the Philistines went after them, unto the border of Beth-shemesh. And *they* of Beth-shemesh were reaping the wheat-harvest in the valley: and they lifted up their eyes and saw the ark, and rejoiced to see it. And the wagon came into the field of Joshua, a Beth-shemite, and stood there, where there was a great stone; and they clave the wood of the wagon, and offered the kine a burnt-offering unto Jehovah. And the Levites took down the ark of Jehovah, and the coffer that was with it, wherein the jewels of gold were, and put them on the great stone: and the men of Beth-shemesh offered burnt-offerings, and sacrificed sacrifices the same day unto Jehovah. And when the five lords of the Philistines had seen *this*, they returned to Ekron the same day.

And these are the golden boils which the Philistines returned for a trespass-offering unto Jehovah; for Ashdod one, for Gaza one, for Askelon one, for Gath one, for Ekron one; and the golden mice, according to the number of all the cities of the Philistines belonging to the five lords, both of fenced cities and of country villages. And the great stone whereon they set down the ark of Jehovah, is a witness unto this day in the field of Joshua the Beth-shemite.

And the men of Beth-shemesh were smitten, because they had looked into the ark of Jehovah, even of the people fifty thousand and threescore and ten men were smitten; and the people lamented, because Jehovah had smitten the people with a great slaughter. And the men of Beth-shemesh said, "Who is able to stand before Jehovah, this holy God? and to whom shall he go up from us?" And they sent messengers to the inhabitants of Kirjath-jearim, saying, "The

Philistines have brought back the ark of Jehovah ; come ye down, and fetch it up to you."

- 1 CHAP. VII.—And the men of Kirjath-jearim came, and fetched up the ark of Jehovah, and brought it into the house of Abinadab on the hill, and sanctified Eleazar his son to keep the ark of Jehovah.
- 2 And it came to pass, from the day *when* the ark remained in Kirjath-jearim, that the time was long ; for it was twenty years ; and all the house of Israel lamented after Jehovah.
- 3 And Samuel spake unto all the house of Israel, saying, "If ye do return unto Jehovah with all your hearts, *then* put away the strange gods and the Ashtaroth from among you, and prepare your hearts unto Jehovah, and serve him only ; and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines."
- 4 Then the children of Israel did put away the Baalim and the Ashtaroth, and served Jehovah only.
- 5 And Samuel said, "Gather all Israel to Mizpeh, and I will pray for you unto Jehovah." And they gathered together to Mizpeh, and drew water, and poured it out before Jehovah, and fasted on that day, and said there, "We have sinned against Jehovah." And Samuel judged the children of Israel in Mizpeh.
- 6 And when the Philistines heard that the children of Israel were gathered together to Mizpeh, the lords of the Philistines went up against Israel. And when the children of Israel heard it, they were afraid of the Philistines. And the children of Israel said to Samuel, "Cease not to cry unto Jehovah our God for us, that he may save us out of the hand of the Philistines." And Samuel took a sucking lamb, and offered *it for* a whole burnt-offering unto Jehovah. And Samuel cried unto Jehovah for Israel ; and Jehovah heard him.
- 7 And as Samuel was offering up the burnt-offering, the Philistines drew near to battle against Israel ; but Jehovah thundered with a great thunder on that day upon the Philistines, and discomfited them ; and they were smitten before Israel.
- 8 And the men of Israel went out of Mizpeh, and pursued the Philistines, and smote them until *they came* under Beth-car.
- 9 Then Samuel took a stone, and set it between Mizpeh and Shen, and called the name of it Eben-ezer, saying, "Hitherto hath Jehovah helped us." So the Philistines were subdued, and they came no more into the territory of Israel ; and the hand of Jehovah was against the Philistines all the days of

Samuel. And the cities which the Philistines had taken 14 from Israel were restored to Israel, from Ebron even unto Gath ; and the territory thereof did Israel deliver out of the hands of the Philistines. And there was peace between Israel and the Amorites.

And Samuel judged Israel all the days of his life. And he went from year to year in circuit to Beth-el and Gilgal, and Mizpeh, and judged Israel in all those places. And his 17 return was to Ramah ; for there was his house ; and there he judged Israel ; and there he built an altar unto Jehovah.

CHAP. VIII.—And it came to pass, when Samuel was old, 1 that he made his sons judges over Israel. Now the name 2 of his first-born was Joel ; and the name of his second Abiah : *they were* judges in Beer-sheba. And his sons 3 walked not in his ways, but turned aside after lucre, and took bribes, and perverted judgment.

Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, 4 and came to Samuel unto Ramah, and said unto him, “Be- 5 hold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways ; now make us a king to judge us like all the nations.”

But the thing displeased Samuel, when they said, “Give 6 us a king to judge us.” And Samuel prayed unto Jehovah. And Jehovah said unto Samuel, “Hearken unto the voice of 7 the people in all that they say unto thee ; for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them. According to all the works which they 8 have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt even unto this day, in that they have forsaken me, and served other gods, so do they also unto thee. Now therefore 9 hearken unto their voice ; howbeit solemnly admonish them, and shew them the manner of the king that shall reign over them.”

And Samuel told all the words of Jehovah unto the 10 people that asked of him a king. And he said, “This will 11 be the manner of the king that shall reign over you : he will take your sons, and appoint them for himself, for his chariots, and to be his horsemen ; and *some* shall run before his chariots. And he will appoint him captains of thousands, 12 and captains of fifties ; and *will set them* to till his ground, and to reap his harvest, and to make his instruments of war, and instruments of his chariots. And he will take your 13

14 daughters to be perfume-makers, and cooks, and bakers. And he will take your fields, and your vineyards, and your olive-yards, *even the best of them*, and give them to his servants.
15 And he will take the tenth of your seed, and of your vine-
16 yards, and give to his officers, and to his servants. And he
will take your men-servants, and your maid-servants, and your
goodliest young men, and your asses, and put them to his
17 work. He will take the tenth of your sheep; and ye shall
18 be his servants. And ye shall cry out in that day because
of your king whom ye have chosen you; and Jehovah will
not answer you in that day."

19 Nevertheless the people refused to hearken to the voice of Samuel; and they said, "Nay; but we will have a king over us; that we also may be like all the nations; and that our king may judge us, and go out before us, and fight our battles." And Samuel heard all the words of the people,
21 and he repeated them in the ears of Jehovah. And Jehovah said to Samuel, "Hearken unto their voice, and make them a king." And Samuel said unto the men of Israel, "Go ye every man unto his city."

1 CHAP. IX.—Now there was a man of Benjamin, whose name was Kish, the son of Abiel, the son of Zeror, the son of Bechorath, the son of Aphiah, a Benjamite, mighty in strength. And he had a son, whose name was Saul, a choice and goodly young man; and there was not among the children of Israel a goodlier person than he; from his shoulders and upward he was higher than any of the people:

3 And the asses of Kish Saul's father were lost. And Kish said to Saul his son, "Take now one of the servants
4 with thee, and arise, go seek the asses." And he passed through mount Ephraim, and passed through the land of Shalisha, but they found them not; then they passed through the land of Shaalim, and *there they were not*; and he passed through the land of the Benjamites, but they found them
5 not. *And when they were come to the land of Zuph*, Saul said to his servant that was with him, "Come, and let us return; lest my father cease to care for the asses, and take thought
6 for us." And he said unto him, "Behold now, there is in this city a man of God, and the man is honoured; all that he saith cometh surely to pass: now let us go thither; per-adventure he can shew us our way that we should go."

Then said Saul to his servant, “But, behold, if we go, what 7 shall we bring the man? for the bread is spent in our vessels, and there is not a present to bring to the man of God; what have we?” And the servant answered Saul again, and said, 8 “Behold, I have here at hand the fourth part of a shekel of silver; and I will give it to the man of God, to tell us our way.” (Beforetime in Israel, when a man went to inquire of 9 God, thus he spake, “Come, and let us go to the seer; for he that is now called a Prophet, was beforetime called a Seer.) Then said Saul to his servant, “Thou sayest well; come, let 10 us go.” So they went unto the city where the man of God was.

As they went up the ascent of the city, they found 11 young maidens going out to draw water, and said unto them, “Is the seer here?” And they answered them, and said, 12 “He is; behold, he is before you; make haste now, for he came to-day to the city; for there is a sacrifice of the people to-day in the high place: as soon as ye be come into the city, 13 ye shall straightway find him, before he go up to the high place to eat; for the people will not eat until he come, because he doth bless the sacrifice; and afterwards they eat that are invited. Now therefore go ye up; for to-day ye shall find him.” And they went up into the city: and when they 14 were come into the city, behold, Samuel came out towards them, to go up to the high place.

Now Jehovah had revealed to Samuel, a day before Saul 15 came, saying, “To-morrow about this time I will send thee 16 a man out of the land of Benjamin, and thou shalt anoint him ruler over my people Israel, that he may save my people out of the hand of the Philistines; for I have looked upon my people, because their cry is come unto me.” And when 17 Samuel saw Saul, Jehovah answered him, “Behold the man of whom I said unto thee, ‘This man shall reign over my people.’”

Then Saul drew near to Samuel in the gate, and said, 18 “Tell me, I pray thee, where the seer’s house is.” And 19 Samuel answered Saul, and said, “I am the seer; go up before me unto the high place; for ye shall eat with me to-day, and to-morrow I will let thee go, and will tell thee all that is in thy heart. And as for thine asses that were lost 20 three days ago, set not thy heart on them; for they are found. And for whom is every desirable thing in Israel? Is it not for thee, and for all thy father’s house?” And Saul answered 21

and said, "Am not I a Benjamite, of the smallest of the tribes of Israel? and my family the least of all the families of the tribe of Benjamin? wherefore then speakest thou so to me?"

- 22 And Samuel took Saul and his servant, and brought them into the guest-chamber, and gave them a place at the head of those that were invited, who were about thirty persons.
- 23 And Samuel said unto the cook, "Bring the portion which I gave thee, of which I said unto thee, 'Set it by thee.'" And the cook took up the shoulder, and that which was upon it, and set it before Saul. And *Samuel* said, "Behold that which is reserved! set it before thee, *and eat*; for unto this time hath it been kept for thee, since I said, I have invited the people." So Saul did eat with Samuel that day.
- 25 And when they were come down from the high place into the city, *Samuel* conversed with Saul upon the house-top.
- 26 And they arose early; and it came to pass about the dawning of the day, that Samuel called unto Saul to the house-top, saying, "Arise, that I may send thee away." And Saul arose, and they went out both of them, he and Samuel, abroad.
- 27 As they were going down to the end of the city, Samuel said to Saul, "Bid the servant pass on before us (and he passed on), but stand thou still a while, that I may shew thee the word of God."

- 1 CHAP. X.—Then Samuel took a vial of oil, and poured it upon his head, and kissed him, and said, "Is it not because Jehovah hath anointed thee ruler over his inheritance?
- 2 When thou art departed from me to-day, then thou shalt find two men by Rachel's sepulchre in the border of Benjamin at Zelzah; and they will say unto thee, 'The asses which thou wentest to seek are found; and, lo, thy father hath cast away the matter of the asses, and taketh thought for you,
- 3 saying, What shall I do for my son?' Then shalt thou go on forward from thence, and thou shalt come to the oak of Tabor, and there shall meet thee three men going up to God to Beth-el, one carrying three kids, and another carrying three cakes of bread, and another carrying a skin of
- 4 wine; and they will salute thee, and give thee two *cakes* of
- 5 bread; which thou shalt receive of their hands. After that thou shalt come to Gibeah-elohim, where is the garrison of the Philistines; and it shall come to pass, when thou art

come thither to the city, that thou shalt meet a company of prophets coming down from the high place with a psaltery, and a tabret, and a pipe, and a harp, before them ; and they shall prophesy ; and the spirit of Jehovah will come upon ⁶ thee, and thou shalt prophesy with them, and shalt be turned into another man. And when these signs are come unto ⁷ thee, do thou what thy hand shall find ; for God is with thee. And thou shalt go down before me to Gilgal ; and, behold, ⁸ I will come down unto thee to offer burnt-offerings, and to sacrifice sacrifices of peace-offerings ; seven days shalt thou wait, till I come to thee, and make known to thee what thou shalt do.”

And it was *so*, that when he had turned his back to go ⁹ from Samuel, God gave him another heart ; and all those signs came to pass that day. And when they came thither ¹⁰ to Gibeah, behold, a company of prophets met him ; and the spirit of God came upon him, and he prophesied among them. And it came to pass, when all that knew him before-¹¹ time saw that, behold, he prophesied among the prophets, then the people said one to another, “What is this that is come unto the son of Kish ? Is Saul also among the pro-¹²phets ?” And one of the same place answered and said, “But who is his father ?” Therefore it became a proverb, “Is Saul also among the prophets ?” And when he had ¹³ made an end of prophesying, he came to the high place.

And Saul’s uncle said unto him and to his servant, ¹⁴ “Whither went ye ?” And he said, “To seek the asses ; and when we found them not we came to Samuel.” And Saul’s ¹⁵ uncle said, “Tell me, I pray thee, what Samuel said unto you.” And Saul said unto his uncle, “He told us plainly ¹⁶ that the asses were found.” But of the matter of the kingdom, whereof Samuel spake, he told him not.

And Samuel called the people together unto Jehovah to ¹⁷ Mizpeh ; and said unto the children of Israel, “Thus saith ¹⁸ Jehovah God of Israel, ‘I brought up Israel out of Egypt, and delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of all the kingdoms that oppressed you ;’ and ye have this day rejected your God, who himself saved ¹⁹ you out of all your evils and your adversities ; and ye have said unto him, ‘Nay, but set a king over us.’ Now therefore present yourselves before Jehovah by your tribes, and by your thousands.”

And when Samuel had caused all the tribes of Israel to ²⁰

- 21 come near, the tribe of Benjamin was taken. And he caused the tribe of Benjamin to come near by their families, and the family of Matri was taken ; and *of them* Saul the son of Kish was taken : and when they sought him, he could not be found.
- 22 Therefore they inquired of Jehovah further, if the man should yet come thither. And Jehovah answered, “Be-
23 hold, he is hidden among the baggage.” And they ran and fetched him thence: and when he stood among the people, he was higher than any of the people from his shoul-
24 ders and upward. And Samuel said to all the people, “See ye him whom Jehovah hath chosen, that there is none like him among all the people?” And all the people shouted,
25 and said, “Long live the king.” Then Samuel told the people the manner of the kingdom, and wrote it in a book, and laid it up before Jehovah.

And Samuel sent all the people away, every man to his house. And Saul also went home to Gibeah ; and there went with him the band of men, whose hearts God had touched.
27 But the children of Belial said, “How shall this man save us?” And they despised him, and brought him no pre-
sents. But he held his peace.

- 1 CHAP. XI.—Then Nahash the Ammonite came up, and encamped against Jabesh-gilead ; and all the men of Jabesh said unto Nahash, “Make a covenant with us, and we will serve thee.” And Nahash the Ammonite said unto them, “On this *condition* will I make a *covenant* with you, that I may thrust out all your right eyes, and lay it for a reproach upon all Israel.”
- 3 And the elders of Jabesh said unto him, “Grant us seven days, that we may send messengers into all the territory of Israel ; and then, if there be no man to save us, we will come 4 out to thee.” Then came the messengers to Gibeah of Saul, and spake the words in the ears of the people ; and all the 5 people lifted up their voices, and wept. And, behold, Saul came after the herd out of the field ; and Saul said, “What *hath befallen* the people that they weep ?” And they told him 6 the words of the men of Jabesh. And the spirit of God came upon Saul when he heard those words, and his anger was 7 kindled greatly. And he took a yoke of oxen, and hewed them in pieces, and sent them throughout all the territory of Israel by the hands of messengers, saying, “Whosoever

cometh not forth after Saul and after Samuel, so shall it be done unto his oxen." And the fear of Jehovah fell on the people, and they came out as one man. And when he numbered them in Bezek, the children of Israel were three hundred thousand, and the men of Judah thirty thousand.

And they said unto the messengers that came, "Thus 9 shall ye say unto the men of Jabesh-gilead, 'To-morrow, by the time the sun is hot, ye shall have deliverance.'" And the messengers came and told it to the men of Jabesh; and they were glad. Therefore the men of Jabesh said, "To- 10 morrow we will come out unto you, and ye shall do with us all that seemeth good unto you."

And it came to pass on the morrow, that Saul put the 11 people in three companies; and they came into the midst of the camp in the morning watch, and slew the Ammonites until the heat of the day; and it came to pass, that they which remained were scattered, so that two of them were not left together.

And the people said unto Samuel, "Who is he that said, 12 'Shall Saul reign over us?' bring the men, that we may put them to death." And Saul said, "There shall not a man be 13 put to death this day; for to-day Jehovah hath wrought deliverance in Israel."

Then said Samuel to the people, "Come, and let us go to 14 Gilgal, and renew the kingdom there." And all the people 15 went to Gilgal; and there they made Saul king before Jehovah in Gilgal; and there they sacrificed sacrifices of peace-offerings before Jehovah; and there Saul and all the men of Israel rejoiced greatly.

CHAP. XII.—And Samuel said unto all Israel, "Behold, 1 I have hearkened unto your voice in all that ye said unto me, and have made a king over you. And now, behold, the 2 king walketh before you; and I am old and grayheaded; and, behold, my sons are with you; and I have walked before you from my childhood unto this day. Behold, here I 3 am; witness against me before Jehovah, and before his anointed; whose ox have I taken? or whose ass have I taken? or whom have I defrauded? whom have I oppressed? or of whose hand have I received a bribe to blind mine eyes therewith? and I will restore it you." And they said, "Thou 4 hast not defrauded us, nor oppressed us, neither hast thou taken aught of *any* man's hand." And he said unto them, 5

"Jehovah is witness against you, and his anointed is witness this day, that ye have not found aught in my hand." And they answered, "*He is* witness."

- 6 And Samuel said unto the people, "*It is* Jehovah that appointed Moses and Aaron, and that brought your fathers up out of the land of Egypt. Now therefore stand, that I may reason with you before the Lord of all the righteous acts of Jehovah, which he did to you and to your fathers.
- 7 When Jacob was come into Egypt, and your fathers cried unto Jehovah, then Jehovah sent Moses and Aaron, and they brought forth your fathers out of Egypt, and made them dwell in this place. And when they forgot Jehovah their God, he delivered them into the hand of Sisera, captain of the host of Hazor, and into the hand of the Philistines, and into the hand of the king of Moab, and they
- 8 fought against them. And they cried unto Jehovah, and said, 'We have sinned, because we have forsaken Jehovah, and have served the Baalim and the Ashtaroth; but now deliver us out of the hand of our enemies, and we will serve
- 9 thee.' And Jehovah sent Jerubbaal, and Bedan, and Jephthah, and Samuel, and delivered you out of the hand of your
- 10 enemies on every side, and ye dwelled safe. And when ye saw that Nahash the king of the children of Ammon came against you, ye said unto me, 'Nay; but a king shall reign over us,' when Jehovah your God was your king. Now therefore behold the king whom ye have chosen, *and* whom ye have desired! and, behold, Jehovah hath set a king over
- 11 you. If ye will fear Jehovah, and serve him, and hearken to his voice, and not rebel against the commandment of Jehovah, and both ye and also the king that reigneth over you
- 12 will follow after Jehovah your God,—*well*; but if ye will not hearken to the voice of Jehovah, but rebel against the commandment of Jehovah, then shall the hand of Jehovah be
- 13 against you, as it was against your fathers. Now therefore stand and see this great thing, which Jehovah will do before
- 14 your eyes. Is it not wheat-harvest to-day? I will call unto Jehovah, and he shall send thunder and rain; that ye may know and see that your wickedness is great, which ye have done in the sight of Jehovah, in asking you a king."
- 15 So Samuel called unto Jehovah; and Jehovah sent thunder and rain that day; and all the people greatly feared Jehovah and Samuel. And all the people said unto Samuel,
- 16 "Pray for thy servants unto Jehovah thy God, that we die

not; for we have added unto all our sins *this* evil, to ask us a king." And Samuel said unto the people, "Fear not: ye have done all this evil; yet turn not aside from after Jehovah, but serve Jehovah with all your heart, and turn ye not aside after vain *things*, which cannot profit nor deliver; for they are vain. For Jehovah will not forsake his people for his great name's sake; because it hath pleased Jehovah to make you his people. Moreover as for me, God forbid that I should sin against Jehovah in ceasing to pray for you; but I will teach you the good and the right way: only fear Jehovah, and serve him in truth with all your heart; for consider how great *things* he hath done for you. But if ye will still do wickedly, ye shall be destroyed, both ye and your king."

CHAP. XIII.—Saul was years old when he became king; and when he had reigned two years over Israel, Saul chose him three thousand *men* of Israel; two thousand were with Saul in Michmash and in mount Beth-el, and a thousand were with Jonathan in Gibeah of Benjamin; and the rest of the people he sent every man to his tent.

And Jonathan smote the garrison of the Philistines that was in Geba, and the Philistines heard of it. And Saul blew the trumpet throughout all the land, saying, "Let the Hebrews hear." And all Israel heard it said that Saul had smitten a garrison of the Philistines, and that Israel also had become abominable to the Philistines. And the people were called together after Saul to Gilgal. And the Philistines gathered themselves together to fight with Israel, thirty thousand chariots, and six thousand horsemen, and people as the sand which is on the sea-shore in multitude; and they came up, and encamped in Michmash, eastward from Beth-aven.

And the men of Israel saw that they were in a strait, (for the people were distressed,) and the people did hide themselves in caves, and in thickets, and in rocks, and in high places, and in pits. And *some* of the Hebrews went over Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead. As for Saul, he was yet in Gilgal, and all the people followed him trembling. And he waited seven days, according to the set time that Samuel had appointed: but Samuel came not to Gilgal; and the people were scattered from him. And Saul said, "Bring hither the burnt-offering to me, and the peace-offerings." And he offered the burnt-offering.

10 And it came to pass, that as soon as he had made an end of offering the burnt-offering, behold, Samuel came; and
11 Saul went out to meet him, that he might salute him. And Samuel said, "What hast thou done?" And Saul said, "Because I saw that the people were scattered from me, and that thou camest not within the days appointed, and that the Philistines gathered themselves together at Michmash;
12 therefore I said, the Philistines will come down now upon me to Gilgal, and I have not made supplication unto Jehovah; I forced myself therefore, and offered a burnt-offering." And Samuel said to Saul, "Thou hast done foolishly; thou hast not kept the commandment of Jehovah thy God, which he commanded thee; for now would Jehovah have
14 established thy kingdom over Israel for ever. But now thy kingdom shall not continue; Jehovah hath sought him a man after his own heart, and Jehovah hath commanded him to be ruler over his people, because thou hast not kept that which Jehovah commanded thee."

15 And Samuel arose, and went up from Gilgal unto Gibeah of Benjamin. And Saul numbered the people present with
16 him, about six hundred men. And Saul, and Jonathan his son, and the people present with them, remained in Gibeah of Benjamin; but the Philistines encamped in Michmash.
17 And the spoilers came out of the camp of the Philistines in three companies; one company turned unto the way of
18 Ophrah, unto the land of Shual; and another company turned the way of Beth-horon; and another company turned the way of the border that looketh over the valley of Zeboim toward the wilderness.

19 Now there was no smith found throughout all the land of Israel; for the Philistines said, "Lest the Hebrews make
20 them swords or spears;" but all Israel went down to the Philistines, to sharpen every man his share, and his hoe, and
21 his axe, and his mattock. Yet they had a file for the mattocks, and for the hoes, and for the forks, and for the axes, and to
22 sharpen the goads. So it came to pass in the day of battle, that there was neither sword nor spear found in the hand of any of the people that were with Saul and Jonathan; but with Saul, and with Jonathan his son, they were found.
23 And a garrison of the Philistines went out to the passage of Michmash.

1 CHAP. XIV.—Now it came to pass at that time, that

Jonathan the son of Saul said unto the youth that bare his armour, “Come, and let us go over to the garrison of the Philistines, that is on the other side.” But he told not his father. And Saul remained at the extremity of Gibeah ² under the pomegranate tree which is in Migron ; and the people that were with him were about six hundred men ; and Ahiah, the son of Ahitub, brother of I-chabod, the son ³ of Phinehas, the son of Eli, was priest of Jehovah in Shiloh, wearing an ephod. And the people knew not that Jonathan was gone. And between the passages, by which ⁴ Jonathan sought to go over unto the garrison of the Philistines, there was a crag of rock on the one side, and a crag of rock on the other side ; and the name of the one was Bozez, and the name of the other Seneh. The one crag was situate ⁵ northward over against Michmash, and the other southward over against Gibeah. And Jonathan said to the young man ⁶ that bare his armour, “Come, and let us go over unto the garrison of these uncircumcised ; it may be that Jehovah will work for us ; for there is no hindrance to Jehovah to save by many or by few.” And his armour-bearer said unto ⁷ him, “Do all that is in thine heart ; go on ; behold, I am with thee according to thy heart.” Then said Jonathan, ⁸ “Behold, we will pass over unto the men, and we will discover ourselves unto them. If they say thus unto us, ‘Be ⁹ still until we come to you ;’ then we will stand in our place, and will not go up unto them. But if they say thus, ‘Come ¹⁰ up unto us ;’ then we will go up ; for Jehovah hath delivered them into our hand ; and this shall be the sign unto us.”

And both of them discovered themselves unto the garrison ¹¹ of the Philistines ; and the Philistines said, “Behold, Hebrews come forth out of the holes where they had hid themselves.” And the men of the garrison answered Jonathan ¹² and his armour-bearer, and said, “Come up to us, and we will make something known to you.” And Jonathan said unto his armour-bearer, “Come up after me ; for Jehovah hath delivered them into the hand of Israel.” And Jonathan ¹³ climbed up upon his hands and upon his feet, and his armour-bearer after him ; and they fell before Jonathan ; and his armour-bearer slew after him. And that first slaughter, ¹⁴ which Jonathan and his armour-bearer made, was about twenty men, within about half an acre of land.

And there was trembling in the host, in the field, and ¹⁵

among all the people ; the garrison, even the spoilers, they also trembled, and the earth shook ; so there was a very great trembling.

- 16 And the watchmen of Saul in Gibeah of Benjamin looked ; and, behold, the multitude melted away, and went hither and thither. Then said Saul unto the people that were with him, “ Number now, and see who is gone from us.” And when they had numbered, behold, Jonathan and his armour-bearer 18 were not *there*. And Saul said unto Ahiah, “ Bring hither the ark of God :” for the ark of God was at that time 19 with the children of Israel. And while Saul was speaking to the priest, the tumult that was in the camp of the Philistines continued to increase ; and Saul said unto the 20 priest, “ Withdraw thine hand.” And Saul and all the people that were with him assembled themselves, and they came to the battle ; and, behold, every man’s sword was against his fellow, *and the consternation was very great*.
- 21 Moreover, the Hebrews that were with the Philistines before that time, who went up with them into the camp round about, even they also *turned* to be with the Israelites that 22 were with Saul and Jonathan. Likewise all the men of Israel who had hid themselves in mount Ephraim, *when* they heard that the Philistines fled, even they also followed 23 hard after them in the battle. So Jehovah saved Israel that day ; and the battle passed over unto Beth-aven.
- 24 And the men of Israel were distressed that day : for Saul had adjured the people, saying, “ Cursed be the man that eateth food until evening, that I may be avenged on mine 25 enemies.” So none of the people tasted food. And all the people came to a wood ; and there was honey upon the ground.
- 26 And when the people were come into the wood, behold, the honey dropped ; but no man put his hand to his mouth ; 27 for the people feared the oath. Now Jonathan had not heard when his father charged the people with the oath ; and he put forth the end of the rod that was in his hand, and dipped it in a honeycomb, and put his hand to his 28 mouth ; and his eyes were enlightened. Then answered one of the people, and said, “ Thy father strictly charged the people with an oath, saying, ‘ Cursed be the man that 29 eateth food this day.’ ” And the people were faint. Then said Jonathan, “ My father hath injured the land ; see, I pray you, how mine eyes have been enlightened, because I 30 tasted a little of this honey : how much more, if haply

the people had eaten freely to-day of the spoil of their enemies which they found ? for now the slaughter has not been great among the Philistines."

And they smote the Philistines that day from Michmash ³¹ to Aijalon ; and the people were very faint. And the people ³² flew upon the spoil, and took sheep, and oxen, and calves, and slew them on the ground : and the people did eat them with the blood. Then they told Saul, saying, "Behold, the ³³ people sin against Jehovah, in that they eat with the blood." And he said, "Ye have transgressed ; roll hither a great stone unto me." And Saul said, "Disperse yourselves among the ³⁴ people, and say to them, 'Bring unto me every man his ox, and every man his sheep, and slay them here, and eat ; and sin not against Jehovah by eating with the blood.' " And all the people brought every man his ox with him that night, and slew them there. And Saul built an altar unto Jehovah ; ³⁵ the same was the first altar that he built unto Jehovah.

Then Saul said, "Let us go down after the Philistines by ³⁶ night, and spoil them until the morning light, and let us not leave a man of them." And they said, "Do whatsoever seemeth good unto thee." Then said the priest, "Let us draw near hither unto God." And Saul asked counsel of ³⁷ God, "Shall I go down after the Philistines ? wilt thou deliver them into the hand of Israel ?" But he answered him not that day. And Saul said, "Draw ye near hither, all the ³⁸ chiefs of the people ; and know and see wherein this sin hath been this day. For, as Jehovah liveth, who saveth ³⁹ Israel, though it be in Jonathan my son, he shall surely die." And no man answered him of all the people. Then said he ⁴⁰ unto all Israel, "Be ye on one side, and I and Jonathan my son will be on the other side." And the people said unto Saul, "Do what seemeth good unto thee." Therefore Saul ⁴¹ said unto Jehovah, "God of Israel, give a just *lot*." And Saul and Jonathan were taken ; but the people escaped. And Saul said, "Cast *lots* between me and Jonathan my ⁴² son." And Jonathan was taken. Then Saul said to Jona- ⁴³ than, "Tell me what thou hast done." And Jonathan told him, and said, "I did but taste a little honey with the end of the rod that was in my hand ; here I am, let me die." And Saul answered, "God do so and more also ; for thou ⁴⁴ must surely die, Jonathan." And the people said unto Saul, ⁴⁵ "Shall Jonathan die, who hath wrought this great deliverance in Israel ? God forbid ; as Jehovah liveth, there shall

not one hair of his head fall to the ground ; for he hath wrought with God this day.” So the people rescued Jona-
46 than, that he died not. Then Saul went up from following the Philistines ; and the Philistines went to their own place.

47 So Saul took the kingdom over Israel, and fought against all his enemies on every side, against Moab, and against the children of Ammon, and against Edom, and against the kings of Zobah, and against the Philistines ; and whitherso-
48 ever he turned himself, he defeated them. And he gathered a force, and smote the Amalekites, and delivered Israel out of the hands of them that spoiled them.

49 Now the sons of Saul were Jonathan, and Ishui, and Melchi-shua : and the names of his two daughters *were these* ; the name of the first-born Merab, and the name of
50 the younger Michal : and the name of Saul’s wife was Ahi-
noam, the daughter of Ahimaaz : and the name of the cap-
tain of his host was Abner, the son of Ner, Saul’s uncle.
51 And Kish was the father of Saul ; and Ner the father of
52 Abner was the son of Abiel. And the war was violent
against the Philistines all the days of Saul ; and when Saul
saw any mighty man, or any valiant man, he took him unto
him.

1 CHAP. XV.—And Samuel said unto Saul, “Jehovah sent me to anoint thee to be king over his people, over Is-
rael ; now therefore hearken thou unto the voice of the
2 words of Jehovah. Thus saith Jehovah of hosts, ‘I have observed what Amalek did to Israel, how he laid *wait* for him
3 in the way, when he came up from Egypt. Now go and smite Amalek, and utterly destroy all that he hath, and spare him not : but slay both man and woman, infant and sucking, ox and sheep, camel and ass.’”

4 Then Saul summoned the people, and mustered them in Telaim, two hundred thousand footmen, and ten thousand
5 men of Judah. And Saul came to a city of Amalek, and
6 placed an ambush in the valley. And Saul said unto the Kenites, “Go, depart, get you down from among the Amalekites, lest I destroy you with them ; for ye shewed kind-
ness to all the children of Israel, when they came up out of Egypt.” So the Kenites departed from among the Amalekites.
7 And Saul smote Amalek from Havilah *until* thou comest to
8 Shur, that is over against Egypt. And he took Agag the king of Amalek alive, and utterly destroyed all the people

with the edge of the sword. But Saul and the people spared 9 Agag, and the best of the sheep, and of the oxen, and those of the second quality, and the lambs, and all that was good, and would not utterly destroy them ; but every thing worthless or diseased, that they destroyed utterly.

Then came the word of Jehovah unto Samuel, saying, 10 “It repenteth me that I have made Saul king ; for he is 11 turned back from following me, and hath not performed my commandments.” And it grieved Samuel ; and he cried unto Jehovah all night. And when Samuel rose early to 12 meet Saul in the morning, it was told Samuel, saying, “Saul came to Carmel, and, behold, he set him up a trophy, and hath gone about, and passed on, and gone down to Gilgal.”

And Samuel came to Saul ; and Saul said unto him, 13 “Blessed be thou of Jehovah : I have performed the commandment of Jehovah.” And Samuel said, “What then 14 is this bleating of the sheep in mine ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear ?” And Saul said, “They have 15 brought them from the Amalekites ; for the people spared the best of the sheep and of the oxen, to sacrifice unto Jehovah thy God ; and the rest we have utterly destroyed.” Then Samuel said unto Saul, “Stay, and I will tell thee what 16 Jehovah hath said to me this night.” And he said unto him, “Say on.”

And Samuel said, “When thou wast little in thine own 17 sight, *wast* thou not *made* the head of the tribes of Israel, and Jehovah anointed thee king over Israel ? And Jehovah 18 sent thee on the way, and said, ‘Go and utterly destroy the sinners, the Amalekites, and fight against them until they are consumed.’ Wherefore then didst thou not hearken to the 19 voice of Jehovah, but didst fly upon the spoil, and didst evil in the sight of Jehovah ?” And Saul said unto Samuel, 20 “Yea, I have hearkened to the voice of Jehovah, and have gone the way which Jehovah sent me, and have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and the Amalekites I have utterly destroyed ; but the people took of the spoil, 21 sheep and oxen, the chief of the things devoted, to sacrifice unto Jehovah thy God in Gilgal.”

And Samuel said, “Hath Jehovah *as great* delight in 22 burnt-offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of Jehovah ? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, *and* to hearken than the fat of rams ; for rebellion is *as* the sin of 23 divination, and stubbornness *as* iniquity and idolatry. Be-

cause thou hast rejected the word of Jehovah, he hath also
 24 rejected thee from *being* king." And Saul said unto Samuel,
 "I have sinned; for I have transgressed the commandment
 of Jehovah, and thy words; because I feared the people,
 25 and obeyed their voice. Now therefore, I pray thee, pardon
 my sin, and return with me, that I may worship Jehovah."

26 And Samuel said unto Saul, "I will not return with
 thee; for thou hast rejected the word of Jehovah, and Je-
 27 hovah hath rejected thee from being king over Israel." And
 as Samuel turned about to go away, he laid hold upon the
 28 skirt of his mantle, and it rent. And Samuel said unto him,
 "Jehovah hath rent the kingdom of Israel from thee this
 day, and hath given it to a neighbour of thine that is better
 29 than thou. And also the Strength of Israel will not lie nor
 30 repent; for he is not a man, that he should repent." Then
 he said, "I have sinned; yet honour me now, I pray thee,
 before the elders of my people, and before Israel, and return
 with me, that I may worship Jehovah thy God."

31 So Samuel returned after Saul; and Saul worshipped Je-
 hovah.

32 Then said Samuel, "Bring ye hither to me Agag the king
 of Amalek." And Agag came unto him cheerfully; for
 33 Agag said, "Surely the bitterness of death is past." And
 Samuel said, "As thy sword hath made women childless, so
 shall thy mother be childless among women." And Samuel
 hewed Agag in pieces before Jehovah in Gilgal.

34 Then Samuel went to Ramah; and Saul went up to his
 35 house to Gibeah of Saul. And Samuel came no more to
 see Saul until the day of his death; nevertheless Samuel
 mourned for Saul: and Jehovah repented that he had made
 Saul king over Israel.

¹ CHAP. XVI.—And Jehovah said unto Samuel, "How
 long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him
 from reigning over Israel? fill thine horn with oil, and go,
 I will send thee to Jesse the Beth-lehemite; for I have pro-
 2 vided me a king among his sons." And Samuel said, "How
 can I go? if Saul hear it, he will kill me." And Jehovah
 said, "Take a heifer with thee, and say, 'I am come to
 3 sacrifice to Jehovah:' and call Jesse to the sacrifice, and I
 will make known to thee what thou shalt do; and thou shalt
 anoint for me him whom I shall name unto thee."

⁴ And Samuel did that which Jehovah spake, and came to

Beth-lehem. And the elders of the town trembled to meet him, and said, "Comest thou *in* peace?" And he said, ⁵ "In peace; I am come to sacrifice unto Jehovah; sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons, and called them to the sacrifice.

And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked ⁶ on Eliab, and said, "Surely the anointed of Jehovah is before him." But Jehovah said unto Samuel, "Look not on his ⁷ countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for Jehovah seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but Jehovah looketh on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him ⁸ pass before Samuel: and he said, "Neither hath Jehovah chosen this." Then Jesse made Shammah to pass by: and ⁹ he said, "Neither hath Jehovah chosen this." Thus, Jesse ¹⁰ made seven of his sons to pass before Samuel: and Samuel said unto Jesse, "Jehovah hath not chosen these."

And Samuel said unto Jesse, "Are these all the young ¹¹ men?" And he said, "There remaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, he keepeth the sheep." And Samuel said unto Jesse, "Send and fetch him; for we will not sit down *to eat* till he come hither." And he sent, and brought him ¹² in. Now he was ruddy, *and had* beautiful eyes, and was goodly to look upon. And Jehovah said, "Arise, anoint him; for this is he." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, ¹³ and anointed him in the midst of his brethren; and the spirit of Jehovah came upon David from that day forward. And Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah.

But the spirit of Jehovah departed from Saul, and an ¹⁴ evil spirit from Jehovah troubled him. And Saul's servants ¹⁵ said unto him, "Behold now, an evil spirit from God troubleth thee: let our lord now command thy servants before ¹⁶ thee, to seek out a man who is a cunning player on the harp; and it shall come to pass, when the evil spirit from God is upon thee, that he shall play with his hand, and thou shalt be well." And Saul said unto his servants, "Provide ¹⁷ me now a man that can play well, and bring him to me." Then answered one of the servants, and said, "Behold, I ¹⁸ have seen a son of Jesse the Beth-lehemite, that is cunning in playing, and a valiant man, and a man of war, and prudent in speech, and a comely person, and Jehovah is with him." Wherefore Saul sent messengers unto Jesse, and ¹⁹ said, "Send me David thy son, who is with the sheep."

20 And Jesse took an ass *laden* with bread, and a skin of wine,
21 and a kid, and sent them by David his son unto Saul. And
22 David came to Saul, and stood before him ; and he loved
23 him greatly ; and he became his armour-bearer. And Saul
sent to Jesse, saying, “ Let David, I pray thee, stand before
me ; for he hath found favour in my sight.” And it came to
pass, when the *evil* spirit from God was upon Saul, that
David took a harp, and played with his hand ; so Saul
was refreshed, and was well, and the evil spirit departed from
him.

1 CHAP. XVII.—Now the Philistines gathered together
their armies to battle, and were gathered together at Shochoh,
which *belongeth* to Judah, and encamped between Shochoh
2 and Azekah, in Ephes-dammim. And Saul and the men
of Israel were gathered together, and encamped by the
valley of Elah, and drew up in battle array against the Philis-
3 tines. And the Philistines stood on a mountain on the one
side, and Israel stood on a mountain on the other side ; and
the valley was between them.

4 And there came forth a champion out of the camp of the
Philistines, named Goliath, of Gath, whose height was six
5 cubits and a span. And he had a helmet of brass upon
his head, and he was armed with a coat of mail ; and the
weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of brass.
6 And he had greaves of brass upon his legs, and a javelin of
7 brass between his shoulders. And the shaft of his spear
was like a weaver’s beam ; and his spear’s head *weighed* six
hundred shekels of iron ; and one bearing the shield went
8 before him. And he stood and cried unto the armies of
Israel, and said unto them, “ Why are ye come out to draw
up in battle array ? am not I the Philistine, and ye servants
to Saul ? choose you a man, and let him come down to me.
9 If he be able to fight with me, and to kill me, then will we
be your servants : but if I prevail against him, and kill
10 him, then shall ye be our servants, and serve us.” And the
Philistine said, “ I defy the armies of Israel this day ; give
11 me a man, that we may fight together.” And when Saul
and all Israel heard those words of the Philistine, they were
dismayed, and greatly afraid.

12 Now David was the son of that Ephrathite of Beth-lehem-
judah, whose name was Jesse ; and he had eight sons ; and
the man was old in the days of Saul, being advanced in

years. And the three eldest sons of Jesse followed Saul to 13 the battle ; and the names of his three sons that went to the battle were, Eliab the first-born, and next unto him Abinadab, and the third Shammah. And David was the youngest : 14 and the three eldest followed Saul ; but David went back 15 from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Beth-lehem. And 16 the Philistine drew near morning and evening, and presented himself, for forty days.

And Jesse said unto David his son, “Take now for thy 17 brethren an ephah of this parched *corn*, and these ten loaves, and run to the camp to thy brethren ; and carry these ten 18 portions of cheese unto the captain of *their* thousand, and enquire how thy brethren fare, and take their pledge.”

Now Saul, and they, and all the men of Israel, were in 19 the valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines. And 20 David rose up early in the morning, and left the sheep with a keeper, and took, and went, as Jesse had commanded him ; and he came to the barrier, as the host was going forth to the fight, and shouted for the battle. And Israel and 21 the Philistines drew up in battle array, army against army. And David left the things *he had* with him in the hand of 22 a keeper of the things, and ran into the army, and came and asked his brethren how they fared. And as he talked with 23 them, behold, there came up the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, out of the armies of the Philistines, and spake according to the same words ; and David heard them. And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, 24 fled from him, and were greatly afraid.

And the men of Israel said, “Have ye seen this man that 25 is come up ? truly to defy Israel is he come up ; and it shall be, that the man who killeth him, the king will enrich him with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and make his father's house free in Israel.”

And David spake to the men that stood by him, saying, 26 “What shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the reproach from Israel ? for who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God ?” And the people answered him after this 27 manner, saying, “So shall it be done to the man that killeth him.”

And Eliab his eldest brother heard when he spake unto 28 the men ; and Eliab's anger was kindled against David, and he said, “Why camest thou down hither ? and with whom

hast thou left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know thy pride, and the wickedness of thine heart; for thou art
29 come down that thou mightest see the battle." And David said, "What have I now done? *May I not speak* a word?"
30 And he turned from him toward another, and spake after the same manner; and the people answered him again after
31 the former manner. And they heard the words which David spake, and repeated them before Saul; and he sent for him.

32 And David said to Saul, "Let no man's heart fail within him; thy servant will go and fight with this Philistine."
33 And Saul said to David, "Thou art not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for thou *art but* a youth,
34 and he a man of war from his youth." And David said unto Saul, "Thy servant kept his father's sheep, and there came a lion, and a bear, and took a lamb out of the flock;
35 and I went out after him, and smote him, and delivered it out of his mouth: and when he arose against me, I caught him by his beard, and smote him, and slew him.
36 Thy servant slew both the lion and the bear; and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them, seeing he
37 hath defied the armies of the living God." David said moreover, "Jehovah who delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine." And Saul said unto David, "Go, and Jehovah be with thee."

38 And Saul clothed David with his *own* garments, and he put a helmet of brass upon his head, and clothed him with
39 a coat of mail. And David girded his sword upon his garments; and he essayed to go, for he had not *yet* tried. Then David said unto Saul, "I cannot go in these; for I have
40 not tried *them*." And David put them off him. And he took his staff in his hand, and chose him five smooth stones out of the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag which he had, even in the pouch; and his sling was in his hand: and
41 he drew near to the Philistine. And the Philistine came on, drawing nigh unto David; and the man that bare the shield *went* before him.

42 And when the Philistine looked, and saw David, he disdained him; for he was *but* a youth, and ruddy, *and* had a
43 beautiful countenance. And the Philistine said unto David, "Am I a dog, that thou comest to me with staves?" And
44 the Philistine cursed David by his gods. And the Philistine

said to David, "Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the field."

Then said David to the Philistine, "Thou comest to me ⁴⁵ with a sword, and with a spear, and with a javelin; but I come to thee in the name of Jehovah of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied. This day will ⁴⁶ Jehovah deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcases of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. And all this assembly ⁴⁷ shall know that Jehovah saveth not with sword and spear; for the battle is Jehovah's, and he will give you into our hands."

And it came to pass, when the Philistine arose, and came ⁴⁸ and drew nigh to meet David, that David hasted, and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine. And David put his ⁴⁹ hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and slang it, and smote the Philistine in his forehead, so that the stone sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the ground. So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with ⁵⁰ a stone, and smote the Philistine, and slew him; and there was no sword in the hand of David. Then David ran, and ⁵¹ stood upon the Philistine, and took his sword, and drew it out of the sheath thereof, and slew him, and cut off his head therewith.

And when the Philistines saw their champion was dead, they fled. And the men of Israel and of Judah arose, and ⁵² shouted, and pursued the Philistines, until thou come to the valley, and as far as the gates of Ekron. And the wounded of the Philistines fell down by the way to Shaaraim, even as far as Gath, and Ekron. And the children of Israel returned ⁵³ from chasing after the Philistines, and they spoiled their camp. And David took the head of the Philistine, and ⁵⁴ brought it to Jerusalem; but he put his armour in his tent.

And when Saul saw David go forth to meet the Philistine, ⁵⁵ he said unto Abner, the captain of the host, "Abner, whose son is this youth?" And Abner said, "As thy soul liveth, O king, I know not." And the king said, "Ask thou ⁵⁶ whose son the stripling is." And as David returned from ⁵⁷ the slaughter of the Philistine, Abner took him, and brought him before Saul with the head of the Philistine in his hand. And Saul said to him, "Whose son art thou, young man?" ⁵⁸

And David answered, "I am the son of thy servant Jesse the Beth-lehemite."

- 1 CHAP. XVIII.—And it came to pass, when he had made an end of speaking unto Saul, that the soul of Jonathan was knit with the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul. And Saul took him that day, and would not let him return to his father's house. Then Jonathan and David made a covenant, because he loved him as his own soul. And Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that was upon him, and gave it to David, and his garments, even to his sword, and to his bow, and to his girdle.
- 5 And David went out whithersoever Saul sent him, *and* prospered; and Saul set him over the men of war, and he was accepted in the sight of all the people, and also in the sight of Saul's servants.
- 6 And it came to pass as they came, when David returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, that the women came out of all the cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet king Saul, with tabrets, with rejoicing, and with triangles.
- 7 And the women sang one to another as they played, and said, "Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his tens of thousands." And Saul was very wroth, and this saying displeased him; and he said, "They have ascribed unto David tens of thousands, and to me they have ascribed *but* thousands; and *what* can he have more but the kingdom?" And Saul looked jealously on David from that day and forward.
- 10 And it came to pass on the morrow, that the evil spirit from God came upon Saul, and he raved in the midst of the house; and David played with his hand, as at other times; and there was a spear in Saul's hand. And Saul cast the spear; and he said, "I will smite David even to the wall." But David turned away out of his presence twice.
- 12 And Saul was afraid of David, because Jehovah was with him, and had departed from Saul. Therefore Saul removed him from him, and made him captain over a thousand; and he went out and came in before the people. And David prospered in all his ways; and Jehovah was with him.
- 15 Wherefore when Saul saw that he prospered greatly, he was afraid of him: but all Israel and Judah loved David, because he went out and came in before them.
- 17 And Saul said to David, "Behold my elder daughter

Merab, her will I give thee to wife: only be thou valiant for me, and fight Jehovah's battles." For Saul said, "Let not my hand be upon him, but let the hand of the Philistines be upon him." And David said unto Saul, "Who am I ^{is} and what is my life, or my father's family in Israel, that I should be son-in-law to the king?" But it came to pass ¹⁹ at the time when Merab Saul's daughter should have been given to David, that she was given unto Adriel the Mehola-thite to wife.

And Michal Saul's daughter loved David; and they told ²⁰ Saul, and the thing pleased him. And Saul said, "I will ²¹ give her to him, that she may be a snare to him, and that the hand of the Philistines may be against him." Wherefore Saul said to David the second time, "Thou shalt this day be my son-in-law." And Saul commanded his servants, *saying*, ²² "Speak unto David secretly, and say, 'Behold, the king hath delight in thee, and all his servants love thee; now therefore be the king's son-in-law.'" And Saul's servants ²³ spake these words in the ears of David. And David said, "Seemeth it to you an easy *thing* to become the king's son-in-law, seeing that I am a poor man, and lightly esteemed?" And the servants of Saul told him, saying, "In this manner ²⁴ spake David." And Saul said, "Thus shall ye say to ²⁵ David, 'The king desireth not any price, but an hundred foreskins of the Philistines, to be avenged of the king's enemies.'" but Saul thought to make David fall by the hand of the Philistines. And when his servants told David ²⁶ these words, it pleased David well to be the king's son-in-law. And the days were not expired, when David arose and ²⁷ went, he and his men, and slew of the Philistines two hundred men; and David brought their foreskins, and they gave them in full to the king, that he might be the king's son-in-law. And Saul gave him Michal his daughter to wife. And Saul saw and knew that Jehovah was with ²⁸ David; and Michal Saul's daughter loved him. And Saul ²⁹ was yet the more afraid of David; and Saul became David's enemy continually. And when the captains of the Philis- ³⁰ tines went forth, it came to pass, as often as they went forth, that David prospered more than all the servants of Saul; so that his name was very precious.

CHAP. XIX.—And Saul spake to Jonathan his son, and ¹ to all his servants, that they should kill David. But Jona-

2 then Saul's son delighted much in David ; and Jonathan told David, saying, "Saul my father seeketh to kill thee ; now therefore, I pray thee, take heed to thyself on the 3 morrow, and abide in a secret *place*, and hide thyself ; and I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where thou art, and I will speak of thee to my father ; and what I see, that I will tell thee."

4 And Jonathan spake good of David unto Saul his father, and said unto him, "Let not the king sin against his servant, against David ; because he hath not sinned against thee, and because his deeds have been very good towards thee ; 5 for he put his life in his hand, and slew the Philistine, and Jehovah wrought a great deliverance for all Israel : thou sawest it, and didst rejoice ; wherefore then wilt thou sin against innocent blood, to slay David without a cause ?" 6 And Saul hearkened unto the voice of Jonathan ; and Saul 7 sware, "As Jehovah liveth, he shall not be slain." And Jonathan called David, and Jonathan told him all these things. And Jonathan brought David to Saul, and he was in his presence, as in times past.

8 And there was war again ; and David went out, and fought with the Philistines, and slew them with a great slaughter ; and they fled before him.

9 And the evil spirit from Jehovah was upon Saul, as he sat in his house with his spear in his hand : and David was 10 playing with his hand. And Saul sought to smite David even to the wall with the spear ; but he rushed from the presence of Saul, and he smote the spear into the wall ; and 11 David fled, and escaped that night. Saul also sent messengers unto David's house, to watch him, and to slay him in the morning : and Michal David's wife told him, saying, "If thou save not thy life to-night, to-morrow thou wilt be 12 slain." So Michal let David down through the window ; 13 and he went, and fled, and escaped. And Michal took *one* of the teraphim, and laid it in the bed, and put a pillow of goat's hair for its bolster, and covered it with the coverlet. 14 And when Saul sent messengers to take David, she said, 15 "He is sick." And Saul sent the messengers to see David, saying, "Bring him up to me in the bed, that I may slay 16 him." And when the messengers were come in, behold, *one* of the teraphim was in the bed, with a pillow of goat's hair 17 for its bolster. And Saul said unto Michal, "Why hast thou deceived me so, and sent away mine enemy, that he

is escaped ? ” And Michal answered Saul, “ He said unto me, ‘ Let me go ; why should I kill thee ? ’ ”

So David fled, and escaped, and came to Samuel to 18 Ramah, and told him all that Saul had done to him. And he and Samuel went and dwelt in Naioth. And it was told 19 Saul, saying, “ Behold, David is at Naioth in Ramah.” And 20 Saul sent messengers to take David : and when they saw the company of the prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing as their leader, the spirit of God came upon the messengers of Saul, and they also prophesied. And when it was told 21 Saul, he sent other messengers, and they prophesied likewise. And Saul sent messengers again the third time, and they prophesied also. Then went he also to Ramah, and 22 came to the great well that is in Sechu : and he asked and said, “ Where are Samuel and David ? ” And one said, “ Behold, they are at Naioth in Ramah.” And he went thither 23 to Naioth in Ramah : and the spirit of God came upon him also, and he went on, and prophesied, until he came to Naioth in Ramah. And he also put off his outer garment, 24 and prophesied before Samuel in like manner, and lay down unrobed all that day and all that night. Wherefore they say, “ Is Saul also among the prophets ? ”

CHAP. XX.—And David fled from Naioth in Ramah, 1 and came and said before Jonathan, “ What have I done, and what is mine iniquity ? and what is my sin before thy father, that he seeketh my life ? ” And he said unto 2 him, “ God forbid ; thou shalt not die ; behold, my father will do nothing, either great or small, but that he will shew it me ; and why should my father hide this thing from me ? it is not so.” And David sware moreover, and said, “ Thy 3 father certainly knoweth that I have found favour in thine eyes ; and he saith, ‘ Let not Jonathan know this, lest he be grieved ; ’ but truly as Jehovah liveth, and as thy soul liveth, there is but a step between me and death.” Then said Jonathan unto David, “ Whatsoever thy soul desireth, I will even do it for thee.”

And David said unto Jonathan, “ Behold, to-morrow is the 5 new moon, and I should not fail to sit with the king at meat ; but let me go, that I may hide myself in the field until the third day at even. If thy father at all miss me, 6 then say, ‘ David earnestly asked leave of me that he might run to Beth-lehem his city ; for there is a yearly sacrifice

7 there for all the family.' If he say thus, 'It is well,' thy servant shall have peace; but if he be very wroth, *then* be sure that evil is determined by him. Thus shalt thou deal kindly with thy servant; for thou hast brought thy servant into a covenant of Jehovah with thee: notwithstanding, if there be in me iniquity, slay me thyself; for why shouldest thou bring me to thy father?" And Jonathan said, "Far be it from thee; for if I knew certainly that evil were determined by my father to come upon thee, then would not I tell it thee?"

10 Then said David to Jonathan, "Who shall tell me if thy father answer thee roughly?" And Jonathan said unto David, "Come, and let us go out into the field." And they 12 went out both of them into the field. And Jonathan said unto David, "Jehovah, God of Israel—when I have sounded my father about this time to-morrow, or the day after, and, behold, if *there be* good toward David, and I then send not 13 unto thee, and shew it thee—Jehovah do so and much more to Jonathan; but if it please my father *to do* thee evil, then I will shew it thee, and send thee away, that thou mayest go in peace; and Jehovah be with thee, as he hath been with 14 my father. And thou shalt not *only* while yet I live shew 15 me the kindness of Jehovah, that I die not; but *also* thou shalt not cut off thy kindness from my house for ever; no, not when Jehovah hath cut off the enemies of David every 16 one from the face of the earth." So Jonathan made a *covenant* with the house of David, *saying*, "Let Jehovah even 17 require it at the hand of David's enemies." And Jonathan caused David to swear again, because he loved him; for he loved him as he loved his own soul.

18 Then Jonathan said to David, "To-morrow is the new moon; and thou wilt be missed, because thy seat will be 19 empty. And on the third day thou shalt go down quickly, and come to the place where thou didst hide thyself on the 20 day of the deed, and shalt remain by the stone Ezel. And I will shoot three arrows on the side *thereof*, as though I 21 shot at a mark. And, behold, I will send the lad, *saying*, 'Go, find the arrows.' If I expressly say unto the lad, 'Behold, the arrows are on this side of thee, take them;' then come thou; for there is peace to thee, and no hurt; as Jehovah liveth. But if I say thus unto the youth, 'Behold, the arrows are beyond thee;' go thy way; for Jehovah hath sent 22 thee away. And *as to* the matter which thou and I have

spoken of, behold, Jehovah is *witness* between thee and me for ever."

So David hid himself in the field; and when the new moon was come, the king sat him down to eat meat. And 24 the king sat upon his seat, as at other times, *even* upon a seat by the wall: and Jonathan arose, and Abner sat by Saul's side, and David's place was empty. But Saul spake not 25 anything that day; for he thought, "Something hath befallen him, he is not clean; surely he is not clean."

And it came to pass on the morrow, the second *day* of the 27 month, that David's place was empty; and Saul said unto Jonathan his son, "Wherefore cometh not the son of Jesse to meat, neither yesterday, nor to-day?" And Jonathan 28 answered Saul, "David earnestly asked *leave* of me to go to Beth-lehem; and said, 'Let me go, I pray thee; for our family 29 hath a sacrifice in the city; and my brother, he hath commanded me to be there: and now, if I have found favour in thine eyes, let me get away, I pray thee, and see my brethren.' Therefore he cometh not unto the king's table."

Then Saul's anger was kindled against Jonathan, and he 30 said unto him, "Thou perverse rebellious son, do not I know that thou hast chosen the son of Jesse to thine own confusion, and to the confusion of thy mother's nakedness? For as long as the son of Jesse liveth upon the ground, thou 31 shalt not be established, nor thy kingdom. Wherefore now send and fetch him unto me, for he shall surely die." And 32 Jonathan answered Saul his father, and said unto him, "Wherefore shall he be slain? what hath he done?" And 33 Saul cast the spear at him to smite him; whereby Jonathan knew that it was determined by his father to slay David. So 34 Jonathan arose from the table in fierce anger, and did eat no meat the second day of the month; for he was grieved for David, because his father had reviled him.

And it came to pass in the morning, that Jonathan went 35 out into the field as appointed with David, and a little lad with him. And he said unto his lad, "Run, find now the 36 arrows which I shoot." As the lad ran, he shot the arrow beyond him. And when the lad was come to the place 37 of the arrow which Jonathan had shot, Jonathan cried after the lad, and said, "Is not the arrow beyond thee?" And 38 Jonathan cried after the lad, "Make speed, haste, stay not." And Jonathan's lad gathered up the arrows, and came to his master. But the lad knew not any thing: only Jonathan 39

40 and David knew the matter. And Jonathan gave his weapons unto his lad, and said unto him, "Go, carry them to the city."

41 As soon as the lad was gone, David arose from the south side, and fell on his face to the ground, and bowed himself three times: and they kissed one another, and wept

42 one with another, until David wept aloud. And Jonathan said to David, "Go in peace, forasmuch as we have sworn both of us in the name of Jehovah, saying, 'Jehovah be witness between me and thee, and between my seed and thy seed for ever.'" And he arose and departed; and Jonathan went into the city.

1 CHAP. XXI.—Then David went to Nob, to Ahimelech the priest: and Ahimelech was afraid at meeting David, and said unto him, "Why art thou alone, and no man with 2 thee?" And David said unto Ahimelech the priest, "The king hath charged me with a matter, and hath said unto me, 'Let no man know any thing of the matter about which I send thee, and with which I have charged thee;' and I have 3 appointed *my* servants to a certain place. Now therefore what is there under thy hand? give *me* five *loaves* of bread 4 in my hand, or what there is present." And the priest answered David, and said, "There is no common bread under my hand, but there is hallowed bread; if the young men 5 have kept themselves only from women." And David answered the priest, and said unto him, "Of a truth women have been withheld from us for three days past, since I came out; and the vessels of the young men are holy; and if it is a profane action, yet will it this day be right through the 6 agent thereof." So the priest gave him hallowed *bread*: for there was no bread there but the shew-bread, that was taken from before Jehovah, to put hot bread in the day when it was taken away.

7 Now a certain man of the servants of Saul was there that day, detained before Jehovah; and his name was Doeg, an Edomite, the chief of the herdmen that belonged to Saul.

8 And David said unto Ahimelech, "And is there not here under thine hand spear or sword? for I have neither brought my sword nor my other weapons with me, because the king's 9 business required haste." And the priest said, "The sword of Goliath the Philistine, whom thou slewest in the valley of Elah, behold, it is here wrapped in a cloth behind the ephod;

if thou wilt take that, take it ; for there is no other save that here." And David said, "There is none like that ; give it me."

And David arose, and fled that day before Saul, and went 10 to Achish the king of Gath. And the servants of Achish said 11 unto him, "Is not this David, the king of the land ? did they not sing one to another of him in dances, saying, 'Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his tens of thousands ?'" And David laid up these words in his heart, and was greatly 12 afraid of Achish the king of Gath. And he changed his 13 behaviour before them, and feigned himself mad in their hands, and made marks on the doors of the gate, and let his spittle fall down upon his beard. Then said Achish unto 14 his servants, "Lo, ye see the man is mad ; wherefore have ye brought him to me ? Have I need of mad-men, that ye 15 have brought this *man* to play the mad-man in my presence ? shall this *man* come into my house ?"

CHAP. XXII.—David therefore departed thence, and 1 escaped to the cave of Adullam ; and when his brethren and all his father's house heard it, they went down thither to him. And every one in distress, and every one that was in 2 debt, and every one that was discontented, gathered themselves unto him ; and he became a captain over them ; and there were with him about four hundred men.

And David went thence to Mizpeh of Moab : and he said 3 unto the king of Moab, "Let my father and my mother, I pray thee, come forth, *and be* with you, till I know what God will do for me." And he brought them before the king of 4 Moab ; and they dwelt with him all the while that David was in the fastness. And the prophet Gad said unto David, 5 "Abide not in the fastness ; depart, and get thee into the land of Judah." Then David departed, and came into the forest of Hareth.

When Saul heard that David was discovered, and the men 6 that were with him, (now Saul was sitting at Gibeah under the tamarisk tree upon the height, and his spear was in his hand, and all his servants were standing beside him;) then 7 Saul said unto his servants that stood beside him, "Hear now, ye Benjamites ; will the son of Jesse give all of you fields and vineyards, *and* make all of you captains of thousands, and captains of hundreds ; that all of you have con- 8 spired against me, and there is none that sheweth me that

my son hath made a covenant with the son of Jesse, and there is none of you that is sorry for me, or sheweth unto me that my son hath stirred up my servant against me, to lie in wait, as at this day ? ”

9 Then answered Doeg the Edomite, who was set over the servants of Saul, and said, “ I saw the son of Jesse come to Nob, to Ahimelech the son of Ahitub. And he enquired of Jehovah for him, and gave him victuals, and gave him the sword of Goliath the Philistine.”

11 Then the king sent to call Ahimelech the priest, the son of Ahitub, and all his father’s house, the priests that were 12 in Nob ; and they came all of them to the king. And Saul said, “ Hear now, thou son of Ahitub.” And he answered, 13 “ Here I am, my lord.” And Saul said unto him, “ Why have ye conspired against me, thou and the son of Jesse, in that thou hast given him bread, and a sword, and hast enquired of God for him, that he should rise against me, to lie 14 in wait, as at this day ? ” Then Ahimelech answered the king, and said, “ And who among all thy servants is so faithful as David, who is the king’s son-in-law, and hath access to private audience of thee, and is honoured in thine 15 house ? Did I that day begin to enquire of God for him ? be it far from me ; let not the king impute *any* thing unto his servant, *nor* to all the house of my father ; for thy servant knew nothing of all this, less or more.”

16 And the king said, “ Thou shalt surely die, Ahimelech, thou, and all thy father’s house.”

17 And the king said unto the footmen that stood beside him, “ Turn, and slay the priests of Jehovah ; because their hand also is with David, and because they knew when he fled, and did not shew it to me.” But the servants of the king would not put forth their hand to fall upon the priests of Jehovah. 18 Then the king said to Doeg, “ Turn thou, and fall upon the priests.” And Doeg the Edomite turned, and he fell upon the priests, and slew on that day fourscore and five persons 19 that did wear a linen ephod. And Nob, the city of the priests, he smote with the edge of the sword, both men and women, children and sucklings, and oxen, and asses, and sheep, with the edge of the sword.

20 And one of the sons of Ahimelech the son of Ahitub, 21 named Abiathar, escaped, and fled after David. And Abiathar told David that Saul had slain the priests of Jehovah. 22 And David said unto Abiathar, “ I knew it on that day, when

Doeq the Edomite was there, that he would surely tell Saul : I have occasioned *the death* of all the persons of thy father's house. Abide thou with me, fear not ; for he that seeketh my life seeketh thy life ; but with me thou shalt be in safety."

CHAP. XXIII.—Then they told David, saying, “Behold, 1 the Philistines fight against Keilah, and they rob the threshing-floors.” Therefore David enquired of Jehovah, saying, 2 “Shall I go and smite these Philistines ?” And Jehovah said unto David, “Go and smite the Philistines, and save Keilah.” And David’s men said unto him, “Behold, we are 3 afraid here in Judah ; how much more then if we come to Keilah against the armies of the Philistines ?” Then David 4 enquired of Jehovah yet again : and Jehovah answered him and said, “Arise, go down to Keilah ; for I will deliver the Philistines into thy hand.” So David and his men went to 5 Keilah, and fought with the Philistines, and brought away their cattle, and smote them with a great slaughter. So David saved the inhabitants of Keilah.

And it came to pass, when Abiathar the son of Ahimelech 6 fled to David to Keilah, that he came down *with* an ephod in his hand.

And it was told Saul that David was come to Keilah. 7 And Saul said, “God hath delivered him into my hand ; for he is shut in, by entering into a town that hath gates and bars.” And Saul called all the people together to war, to go 8 down to Keilah, to besiege David and his men.

And David knew that Saul was devising evil against him ; 9 and he said to Abiathar the priest, “Bring hither the ephod.” Then said David, “O Jehovah God of Israel, thy servant hath 10 certainly heard that Saul seeketh to come to Keilah, to destroy the city for my sake. Will the men of Keilah deliver 11 me up into his hand ? will Saul come down, as thy servant hath heard ? O Jehovah God of Israel, I beseech thee, tell thy servant.” And Jehovah said, “He will come down.” Then 12 said David, “Will the men of Keilah deliver me and my men into the hand of Saul ?” And Jehovah said, “They will deliver thee.”

Then David and his men, about six hundred men, arose 13 and departed out of Keilah, and went whithersoever they could go. And it was told Saul that David was escaped from Keilah ; and he forbore to go forth. And David re- 14 mained in the wilderness in fastnesses, and remained on a

mountain in the wilderness of Ziph : and Saul sought him every day, but God delivered him not into his hand.

16 And David saw that Saul was come out to seek his life :
16 and David was in the wilderness of Ziph in a wood. And Jonathan Saul's son arose, and went to David into the wood,
17 and strengthened his hand in God. And he said unto him,
“ Fear not ; for the hand of Saul my father shall not find thee ; and thou shalt be king over Israel, and I shall be next
18 unto thee ; and that also Saul my father knoweth.” And they two made a covenant before Jehovah : and David re-
mained in the wood, and Jonathan went to his house.

19 Then came up Ziphites to Saul to Gibeah, saying, “ Doth not David hide himself with us in fastnesses in the wood, in the hill of Hachilah, which is on the south of the desert ?
20 Now therefore, O king, come down according to all the desire
of thy soul to come down ; and our part shall be to deliver
21 him into the king's hand.” And Saul said, “ Blessed be ye
22 of Jehovah ; for ye have compassion on me. Go, I pray you,
prepare yet, and know and see his place where his haunt is,
and who hath seen him there ; for it is told me that he
23 dealeth very craftily. See therefore, and take knowledge of
all the hiding-places where he hideth himself, and come ye
again to me with the certainty, and I will go with you ; and
it shall come to pass, if he be in the land, that I will search
24 him out throughout all the thousands of Judah.” And they
arose, and went to Ziph before Saul.

But David and his men were in the wilderness of Maon,
25 in the plain to the south of the desert. Then Saul and his
men went to seek him. And they told David : wherefore he
came down from the rock, and remained in the wilderness of
Maon. And when Saul heard *that*, he pursued after David
26 in the wilderness of Maon. And Saul went on this side of
the mountain, and David and his men on that side of the
mountain : and David made haste to get away before Saul ;
for Saul and his men were surrounding David and his men to
27 take them. But there came a messenger unto Saul, saying,
“ Haste thee, and come ; for the Philistines have invaded the
28 land.” Wherefore Saul returned from pursuing after David, and
went against the Philistines ; therefore they called that place
29 Sela-hammahlekoth [Rock or ESCAPES]. And David went
up from thence, and remained in the fastnesses of En-gedi.

¹ CHAP. XXIV.—And it came to pass, when Saul had

returned from following the Philistines, that it was told him, saying, “Behold, David is in the wilderness of En-gedi.” Then Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel,² and went to seek David and his men upon the rocks of the wild goats. And he came to the sheep-cotes, by the way,³ where was a cave; and Saul went in to cover his feet: and David and his men were remaining in the inner part of the cave. And the men of David said unto him, “Behold the day of which Jehovah said unto thee, ‘Behold, I will deliver thine enemy into thy hand, that thou mayest do to him as it shall seem good unto thee.’” Then David arose, and cut off the skirt of Saul’s robe privily. And it came to pass afterward,⁵ that David’s heart smote him, because he had cut off the skirt of Saul’s robe. And he said unto his men, “Jehovah forbid that I should do this thing unto my master, the anointed of Jehovah, to stretch forth my hand against him, seeing he is the anointed of Jehovah.” So David stayed his men with these words, and suffered them not to rise against Saul: but Saul rose up out of the cave, and went on *his* way.

Then David arose afterward, and went out of the cave,⁸ and cried after Saul, saying, “My lord the king.” And when Saul looked behind him, David stooped with his face to the ground, and bowed himself. And David said to Saul,⁹ “Wherefore hearest thou men’s words, saying, ‘Behold, David seeketh thy hurt?’ Behold, this day thine eyes have seen how that Jehovah had delivered thee to-day into my hand in the cave; and *some* bade *me* kill thee; but *mine eye* spared thee; and I said, ‘I will not put forth my hand against my lord; for he is the anointed of Jehovah.’ Moreover,¹¹ my father, see, yea, see the skirt of thy robe in my hand; for in that I cut off the skirt of thy robe, and killed thee not, know thou and see that there is neither evil nor transgression in my hand, and I have not sinned against thee; yet thou huntest my soul to take it. Jehovah judge between me and thee, and Jehovah avenge me of thee; but my hand shall not be upon thee. As saith the proverb of the ancients, ‘Wickedness proceedeth from the wicked:’ but my hand shall not be upon thee. After whom is the king of Israel come out? after whom dost thou pursue? after a dead dog, after a flea! Jehovah therefore be judge, and judge between me and thee, and see, and plead my cause, and do me justice at thy hand.”

And it came to pass, when David had made an end of

speaking these words unto Saul, that Saul said, “Is this thy voice, my son David?” And Saul lifted up his voice, and
17 wept. And he said to David, “Thou art more righteous than I; for thou hast requited me good, whereas I have
18 requited thee evil. And thou hast shewed this day how that thou hast dealt well with me; forasmuch as when Je-
hovah had delivered me into thy hand, thou killedst me
19 not. For if a man find his enemy, will he let him go well away? wherefore Jehovah reward thee good for that thou
20 hast done unto me this day. And now, behold, I know that thou shalt surely be king, and that the kingdom of Israel
21 shall be established in thy hand. Swear now therefore unto me by Jehovah, that thou wilt not cut off my seed after me,
and that thou wilt not destroy my name out of my father’s
22 house.” And David sware unto Saul. And Saul went to his house; but David and his men ascended into the fastness.

1 CHAP. XXV.—And Samuel died; and all the Israelites gathered together, and lamented him, and buried him in his house at Ramah.

And David arose, and went down to the wilderness of
2 Paran. And there was a man in Maon, whose possessions were in Carmel; and the man was very great, and he had three thousand sheep, and a thousand goats; and he was
3 shearing his sheep in Carmel. Now the name of the man was Nabal; and the name of his wife Abigail: and *she was* a woman of good understanding, and of a beautiful form; but the man was churlish and evil in his doings; and he was
4 of the house of Caleb. And David heard in the wilderness
5 that Nabal was shearing his sheep. And David sent ten young men; and David said unto the young men, “Go ye up to Carmel, and go to Nabal, and greet him in my name; and thus shall ye say *to him*, ‘Long life! peace be to thee, and peace to thine house, and peace to all that thou hast.’”
7 And now I have heard that thou hast shearers; now thy shepherds which were with us, we hurt them not, neither was there aught missing to them, all the while they were in
8 Carmel. Ask thy young men, and they will tell thee. Wherefore let the young men find favour in thine eyes; for we come on a good day; give, I pray thee, whatsoever thy hand findeth to thy servants, and to thy son David.”
9 And when David’s young men came, they spake to Nabal

according to all these words in the name of David, and 10 rested. And Nabal answered David's servants, and said, "Who is David? and who is the son of Jesse? there be many servants in these days that break away every man from his master. Shall I then take my bread, and my water, and 11 my flesh that I have killed for my shearers, and give it unto men of whom I know not whence they are?" So David's 12 young men turned back on their way, and returned, and came and told him all these words. And David said unto 13 his men, "Gird ye on every man his sword." And they girded on every man his sword; and David also girded on his sword: and there went up after David about four hundred men; and two hundred remained by the things.

But one of the young men told Abigail, Nabal's wife, 14 saying, "Behold, David sent messengers out of the wilderness to salute our master; and he railed on them. But the 15 men were very good unto us, and we were not hurt, neither missed we any thing, as long as we went about with them, when we were in the field: they were a wall unto us both by 16 night and day, as long as we were with them keeping the sheep. Now therefore know and consider what thou wilt do; 17 for evil is determined against our master, and against all his household; for he is such a son of Belial, that no one can speak to him."

Then Abigail made haste, and took two hundred loaves, 18 and two skins of wine, and five sheep ready dressed, and five measures of parched corn, and an hundred bunches of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs, and laid them on asses. And 19 she said unto her servants, "Go on before me; behold I come after you." But she told not her husband Nabal. And it was so, as she rode on the ass, that she came down by 20 the covert of the hill, and, behold, David and his men came down against her; and she met them.

Now David had said, "Surely in vain have I kept all that 21 this man hath in the wilderness, so that nothing was missed of all that was his; and he hath returned me evil for good. So and more also do God unto the enemies of David, if I 22 leave of all that he hath by the morning light even the meanest man."

And when Abigail saw David, she hasted, and alighted off 23 the ass, and fell before David on her face, and bowed herself to the ground, and fell at his feet, and said, "Upon me, my 24 lord, upon me be the offence; and let thy handmaid, I pray

thee, speak in thine ears, and hear the words of thy hand-maid. Let not my lord, I pray thee, regard this man of Belial, even Nabal; for as his name is, so is he; Nabal [FOOL] is his name, and folly is with him; but I thy handmaid saw not the young men of my lord, whom thou didst send. Now therefore, my lord, as Jehovah liveth, and as thy soul liveth, seeing Jehovah hath withholden thee from coming to *shed* blood, and from avenging thyself with thine own hand, now let thine enemies, and them that seek evil to my lord, be as Nabal. And now this present which thy handmaid hath brought unto my lord, let it even be given unto the young men that follow my lord. I pray thee, forgive the trespass of thy handmaid; for Jehovah will certainly make my lord a sure house; because my lord fighteth the battles of Jehovah, and evil shall not be found in thee *all* thy days.

And should a man rise up to pursue thee, and to seek thy soul, the soul of my lord shall be bound in the bundle of life with Jehovah thy God; and the souls of thine enemies, them shall he sling out, *as from* the middle of a sling. And it shall come to pass, when Jehovah shall have done to my lord according to all the good that he hath spoken concerning thee, and shall have appointed thee ruler over Israel; that this shall be no grief unto thee, nor offence of heart unto my lord, either that thou hast shed blood without a cause, or that my lord hath avenged himself; but when Jehovah shall have dealt well with my lord, then remember thy handmaid."

And David said to Abigail, "Blessed be Jehovah God of Israel, who sent thee this day to meet me: and blessed be thy advice, and blessed be thou, who hast kept me this day from coming to *shed* blood, and from avenging myself with mine own hand. For in very deed, as Jehovah God of Israel liveth, who hath kept me back from hurting thee, unless thou hadst hasted and come to meet me, surely there had not been left unto Nabal by the morning light even the meanest man." So David received of her hand that which she had brought him, and said unto her, "Go up in peace to thy house; see, I have hearkened to thy voice, and have accepted thy person."

And Abigail came to Nabal; and, behold, he held a feast in his house, like the feast of a king; and Nabal's heart was merry within him, for he was very drunken; wherefore she told him nothing, less or more, until the morning light. But

it came to pass in the morning, when the wine was gone out of Nabal, and his wife had told him these things, that his heart died within him, and he became *as a stone*. And ³⁸ it came to pass about ten days *after*, that Jehovah smote Nabal, that he died. And when David heard that Nabal was ³⁹ dead, he said, “Blessed be Jehovah, that hath pleaded the cause of my reproach at the hand of Nabal, and hath kept his servant from evil; for Jehovah hath returned the wickedness of Nabal upon his own head.”

And David sent and spake with Abigail, to take her to him to wife. And when the servants of David were come to ⁴⁰ Abigail to Carmel, they spake unto her, saying, “David sent us unto thee, to take thee to him to wife.” And she arose, ⁴¹ and bowed herself with *her* face to the ground, and said, “Behold, *let thy handmaid be* a servant to wash the feet of the servants of my lord.” And Abigail hasted, and arose, ⁴² and rode upon an ass, with five damsels of hers that went beside her; and she went after the messengers of David, and became his wife. David also took Ahinoam of Jezreel; and ⁴³ they were also both of them his wives. But Saul had given ⁴⁴ Michal his daughter, David’s wife, to Phalti the son of Laish, which was of Gallim.

CHAP. XXVI.—And the Ziphites came unto Saul to Gibeath, saying, “Doth not David hide himself in the hill of Hachilah, before the desert?” Then Saul arose, and went ¹ down to the wilderness of Ziph, having three thousand chosen men of Israel with him, to seek David in the wilderness of Ziph. And Saul encamped on the hill of Hachilah, ² which is before the desert, on the way. But David remained in the wilderness, and he saw that Saul came after him into the wilderness. David therefore sent out spies, and knew ⁴ that Saul had come into a certain *place*.

And David arose, and came to the place where Saul had ⁵ encamped; and David beheld the place where Saul lay, and Abner the son of Ner, the captain of his host; and Saul lay at the barrier, and the people were encamped round about him. Then spake David and said to Ahimelech the Hittite, ⁶ and to Abishai the son of Zeruiah, brother to Joab, saying, “Who will go down with me to Saul to the camp?” And Abishai said, “I will go down with thee.”

So David and Abishai came to the people by night: and, ⁷ behold, Saul lay sleeping at the barrier, and his spear stuck

in the ground at his head ; and Abner and the people lay round about him. Then said Abishai to David, "God hath delivered thine enemy into thy hand this day ; now therefore let me smite him, I pray thee, with the spear even to the earth at once, and I will not *smite* him the second time." 9 And David said to Abishai, "Destroy him not ; for who can stretch forth his hand against the anointed of Jehovah, and 10 be guiltless ?" David said moreover, "No ! as Jehovah liveth ; Jehovah shall smite him ; either his day shall come 11 to die ; or he shall descend into battle, and perish. Jehovah forbid that I should stretch forth mine hand against the anointed of Jehovah : but now take, I pray thee, the spear that is at his head, and the cruse of water, and let us 12 go." So David took the spear and the cruse of water at Saul's head ; and they got away again, and no man saw it, nor knew it, neither awoke : for they were all asleep ; because a deep sleep from Jehovah had fallen upon them.

13 Then David went over to the other side, and stood on the top of the hill afar off ; a great space *being* between them : 14 and David cried to the people, and to Abner the son of Ner, saying, "Answerest thou not, Abner ?" Then Abner answered and said, "Who art thou that criest to the king ?" 15 And David said to Abner, "Art not thou a man ? and who is like thee in Israel ? wherefore then hast thou not guarded thy lord the king ? for there went one of the people 16 in to destroy the king thy lord. This thing is not good that thou hast done. As Jehovah liveth, ye are worthy to die, because ye have not guarded your master, the anointed of Jehovah. And now see where the king's spear is, and the cruse of water that was at his head."

17 And Saul knew David's voice, and said, "Is this thy voice, my son David ?" And David said, "It is my voice, 18 my lord, O king." And he said, "Wherefore doth my lord thus pursue after his servant ? for what have I done ? or 19 what evil is in mine hand ? Now therefore, I pray thee, let my lord the king hear the words of his servant. If Jehovah have stirred thee up against me, let him accept an offering ; but if *it be* the children of men, cursed be they before Jehovah ; for they have driven me out this day from abiding in the inheritance of Jehovah, saying, 'Go, serve 20 other gods.' Now therefore let not my blood fall to the ground before the face of Jehovah ; for the king of Israel is

come out to seek a flea, as when one doth hunt a partridge on the mountains."

Then said Saul, "I have sinned; return, my son David; 21 for I will no more do thee harm, because my soul was precious in thine eyes this day: behold, I have acted foolishly, and have erred exceedingly." And David answered and 22 said, "Behold the king's spear! and let one of the young men come over and fetch it. Jehovah will render to every 23 man his righteousness and his faithfulness; for Jehovah delivered thee into my hand to-day, but I would not stretch forth my hand against the anointed of Jehovah. And, 24 behold, as thy life was greatly valued this day in mine eyes, so let my life be greatly valued in the eyes of Jehovah, and let him deliver me out of all tribulation." Then Saul said 25 to David, "Blessed be thou, my son David; thou shalt both do great deeds, and also be very powerful." So David went on his way, and Saul returned to his place.

CHAP. XXVII.—And David said in his heart, "I shall 1 now perish one day by the hand of Saul; there is nothing better for me than that I should speedily escape into the land of the Philistines; then Saul will despair of me, to seek me any more in all the territory of Israel; so shall I escape out of his hand." And David arose, and passed over, he and six hundred men that were with him unto Achish, the son of Maoch, king of Gath. And David dwelt with Achish at Gath, he 2 and his men, every man with his household, *even* David with his two wives, Ahinoam the Jezreeliteess, and Abigail the Carmeliteess, Nabal's wife. And it was told Saul that David 4 was fled to Gath: and he sought no more again for him.

And David said unto Achish, "If I have now found 5 favour in thine eyes, let them give me a place in one of the towns in the country, that I may dwell there; for why should thy servant dwell in the royal city with thee?" Then Achish gave him Ziklag that day: wherefore Ziklag 6 pertaineth unto the kings of Judah unto this day. And 7 the time that David dwelt in the country of the Philistines was a year and four months.

And David and his men went up, and invaded the 8 Geshurites, and the Gezrites, and the Amalekites; for those nations were of old the inhabitants of the land, as thou goest to Shur, even unto the land of Egypt. And David 9

smote the land, and left neither man nor woman alive, and took away the sheep, and the oxen, and the asses, and the camels, and the apparel, and returned, and came to Achish.
 10 And Achish said, "Whither have ye made an inroad to-day?" And David said, "Against the south of Judah, and against the south of the Jerahmeelites, and against the south of the Kenites." And David saved neither man nor woman alive, to bring them to Gath, saying, "Lest they should tell of us, saying, 'So did David,'" and so his manner was all the time he dwelt in the country of the Philistines. And Achish believed David, saying, "He hath made his people Israel utterly to abhor him; therefore he shall be my servant for ever."

1 CHAP. XXVIII.—And it came to pass in those days, that the Philistines gathered their armies together for warfare, to fight with Israel. And Achish said unto David, "Know thou assuredly, that thou shalt go out with me to battle, thou and thy men." And David said to Achish, "Surely thou shalt know what thy servant can do." And Achish said to David, "Therefore will I make thee keeper of my head continually."

3 Now Samuel was dead, and all Israel had lamented him, and buried him in Ramah, even in his own city. And Saul had put away the necromancers, and the wizards, out of the land. And the Philistines gathered themselves together, and came and encamped in Shunem: and Saul gathered all Israel together, and they encamped in Gilboa. And when Saul saw the host of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart greatly trembled. And when Saul enquired of Jehovah, Jehovah answered him not, neither by dreams, nor by Urim, nor by prophets. Then said Saul unto his servants, "Seek me a woman skilled in necromancy, that I may go to her, and enquire of her." And his servants said to him, "Behold, there is a woman skilled in necromancy, at En-dor."

5 And Saul disguised himself, and put on other raiment, and went, he and two men with him, and they came to the woman by night; and he said, "I pray thee, divine for me by necromancy, and bring me up him whom I shall name unto thee." And the woman said unto him, "Behold, thou knowest what Saul hath done, how he hath cut off the necromancers, and the wizards, out of the land;

wherefore then layest thou a snare for my life, to cause me to die?" And Saul sware to her by Jehovah, saying, 10 "As Jehovah liveth, there shall no punishment happen to thee for this thing." Then said the woman, "Whom shall I bring up for thee?" And he said, "Bring me up Samuel."

And when the woman saw Samuel, she cried with a loud 12 voice; and the woman spake to Saul, saying, "Why hast thou deceived me? for thou art Saul." And the king said 13 unto her, "Be not afraid; but what sawest thou?" And the woman said unto Saul, "I saw a god ascending out of the earth." And he said unto her, "What is his form?" 14 And she said, "An old man cometh up; and he is covered with a mantle." And Saul perceived that it was Samuel, and he stooped with his face to the ground, and bowed himself.

And Samuel said to Saul, "Why hast thou disquieted me, 15 to bring me up?" And Saul answered, "I am greatly distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God is departed from me, and answereth me no more, neither by prophets, nor by dreams: therefore I have called thee, that thou mayest make known unto me what I shall do." Then 16 said Samuel, "Wherefore then dost thou ask of me, seeing Jehovah hath departed from thee, and is become thine enemy? And Jehovah hath done as he spake by me; for 17 Jehovah hath rent the kingdom out of thy hand, and given it to thy neighbour, *even* to David; because thou 18 obeyedst not the voice of Jehovah, nor executedst his fierce wrath upon Amalek, therefore hath Jehovah done this thing unto thee this day. Moreover Jehovah will also deliver 19 Israel with thee into the hand of the Philistines; and to-morrow shalt thou and thy sons be with me; Jehovah also shall deliver the host of Israel into the hand of the Philistines."

Then Saul fell straightway all his length on the ground, 20 and was greatly afraid, because of the words of Samuel; and there was no strength in him; for he had eaten no bread all the day, nor all the night. And the woman came unto 21 Saul, and saw that he was greatly troubled, and said unto him, "Behold, thine handmaid hath obeyed thy voice, and I have put my life in my hand, and have hearkened unto thy words which thou spakest unto me. Now therefore, I pray thee, 22 hearken thou also unto the voice of thy handmaid, and let me set a morsel of bread before thee; and eat, that thou

23 mayest have strength, when thou goest on thy way." But he refused, and said, "I will not eat." But his servants, together with the woman, urged him; and he hearkened unto their voice. So he arose from the ground, and sat upon 24 the bed. And the woman had a fatted calf in the house; and she made haste to kill it, and took flour, and kneaded it, 25 and did bake unleavened bread thereof: and she set them before Saul, and before his servants; and they did eat. Then they rose up, and went away that night.

1 CHAP. XXIX.—Now the Philistines gathered together all their armies to Aphek: and the Israelites encamped by a 2 fountain which is in Jezreel. And the lords of the Philistines passed on by hundreds, and by thousands; but David 3 and his men passed on in the rear with Achish. Then said the captains of the Philistines, "What do these Hebrews *here?*" And Achish said unto the captains of the Philistines, "Is not this David, the servant of Saul the king of Israel, who hath been so long with me, and I have found no fault in him since he came over *to me* unto this day?" 4 And the captains of the Philistines were wroth with him; and the captains of the Philistines said unto him, "Make the man return, that he may go back to his place which thou hast appointed him, and let him not go down with us to battle, lest in the battle he be an adversary to us; for where-with should he reconcile himself unto his master? will it not 5 be with the heads of these men? Is not this David, of whom they sang one to another in dances, saying, 'Saul slew his thousands, and David his tens of thousands?'" 6 Then Achish called David, and said unto him, "Surely, as Jehovah liveth, thou art upright, and thy going out and thy coming in with me in the camp is good in my sight; for I have not found evil in thee since the day of thy coming unto me unto this day: nevertheless the lords favour thee 7 not. Wherefore now return, and go in peace, that thou dis-
8 please not the lords of the Philistines." And David said unto Achish, "But what have I done? and what hast thou found in thy servant so long as I have been with thee unto this day, that I may not go and fight against the enemies of 9 my lord the king?" And Achish answered and said to David, "I know that thou art good in my sight, as an angel of God; nevertheless the captains of the Philistines have said, 'He shall not go up with us to the battle.'

Wherefore now rise up early in the morning with thy master's 10 servants that are come with thee ; and as soon as ye are up in the morning, and have light, depart."

So David and his men rose up early to depart in the morn- 11 ing, to return into the land of the Philistines. And the Philistines went up to Jezreel.

CHAP. XXX.—And it came to pass, when David and his 1 men were come to Ziklag on the third day, that the Amalekites had invaded the south, and Ziklag, and smitten Ziklag, and burned it with fire ; and had taken the women captives, 2 that were therein ; they slew not any, either great or small, but carried them off, and went on their way. So David 3 and his men came to the city, and, behold, it was burned with fire ; and their wives, and their sons, and their daughters, were taken captives. Then David and the people that 4 were with him lifted up their voice and wept, until they had no more power to weep. And David's two wives were taken 5 captives, Ahinoam the Jezreelite, and Abigail the wife of Nabal the Carmelite. And David was greatly distressed ; 6 for the people spake of stoning him, because all the people were grieved in soul, every man for his sons and for his daughters : but David strengthened himself in Jehovah his God.

And David said to Abiathar the priest, the son of Ahime- 7 lech, " I pray thee, bring me hither the ephod." And Abia- thar brought the ephod to David. And David enquired of s Jehovah, saying, " Shall I pursue after this troop ? shall I overtake them ? " And he answered him, " Pursue ; for thou shalt surely overtake them, and without fail recover all." So David went, he and the six hundred men that were with 9 him, and came to the brook Besor, where those who were left behind stayed : but David pursued, he and four hundred 10 men ; for two hundred stayed behind, who were so faint that they could not go over the brook Besor.

And they found an Egyptian in the field, and brought 11 him to David, and gave him bread, and he did eat ; and they made him drink water ; and they gave him a piece of a 12 cake of figs, and two bunches of raisins : and when he had eaten, his spirit came again to him ; for he had eaten no bread, nor drunk any water, three days and three nights. And David said unto him, " To whom belongeth thou ? and 13 whence art thou ? " And he said, " I am a young man of

- Egypt, servant to an Amalekite; and my master left me,
14 because three days ago I fell sick. We invaded the south of
the Cherethites, and *the territory which belongeth to Judah,*
and the south of Caleb; and we burned Ziklag with fire.”
15 And David said to him, “Canst thou bring me down to this
troop?” And he said, “Swear unto me by God, that thou
wilt neither kill me, nor deliver me into the hands of my
master, and I will bring thee down to this troop.”
16 And when he had brought him down, behold, *they were*
spread over all the land, eating, and drinking, and dancing,
because of all the great spoil that they had taken out of the
17 land of the Philistines, and out of the land of Judah. And
David smote them from the dawn even unto the evening of
the next day; and there escaped not a man of them, save
four hundred young men, who rode upon camels and fled.
18 And David recovered all that the Amalekites had carried
19 away; and David recovered his two wives. And there was
nothing lacking to them, neither small nor great, neither sons
nor daughters, neither spoil, nor any *thing* that they had
20 taken; David restored all. And David took all the flocks
and the herds; they drove these cattle before *him*, and said,
“This is David’s spoil.”
21 And David came to the two hundred men, who were so
faint that they could not follow David, whom also they had
made to abide at the brook Besor; and they came forth to
meet David, and to meet the people that were with him;
and when David came near to the people, he saluted them.
22 Then answered all the wicked men, and *men of Belial*, of
those that went with David, and said, “Because they went
not with us, we will not give them of the spoil that we have
recovered, save to every man his wife and his children, that
23 they may lead them away and depart.” Then said David,
“Ye shall not do so, my brethren, with that which Jehovah
hath given us, who hath preserved us, and delivered the
24 troop that came against us into our hand. For who will
hearken unto you in this matter? but as his part is that
goeth down to the battle, so shall his part be that tarrieth
25 by the baggage; they shall share alike.” And it was so
from that day forward, that he made it a statute and an
ordinance for Israel unto this day.
26 And when David came to Ziklag, he sent of the spoil
unto the elders of Judah, *even* to his friends, saying, “Be-

hold a present for you of the spoil of the enemies of Jehovah ; to them that were in Beth-el, and to them that were 27 in Ramoth-Negeb, and to them that were in Jattir, and to 28 them that were in Aroer, and to them that were in Siph-moth, and to them that were in Eshtemoa, and to them that 29 were in Rachal, and to them that were in the cities of the Jerahmeelites, and to them that were in the cities of the Kenites, and to them that were in Hormah, and to them so 30 that were in Chor-ashan, and to them that were in Athach, and to them that were in Hebron, and to all the places where 31 David himself and his men were wont to go.

CHAP. XXXI.—Now the Philistines fought against Is- 1 rael: and the men of Israel fled from before the Philistines, and fell down slain in mount Gilboa. And the Philistines 2 followed closely upon Saul and upon his sons; and the Philistines slew Jonathan, and Abinadab, and Melchi-shua, Saul's sons. And the battle was hard against Saul, and the 3 archers hit him; and he was sorely wounded by the archers. Then said Saul unto his armour-bearer, “Draw thy sword, 4 and thrust me through therewith; lest these uncircumcised come and thrust me through, and abuse me.” But his armour-bearer would not; for he was greatly afraid. Therefore 5 Saul took the sword, and fell upon it. And when his armour-bearer saw that Saul was dead, he fell likewise upon his sword, and died with him. So Saul died, and his three 6 sons, and his armour-bearer, and all his men, that same day together.

And when the men of Israel that were on the other side 7 of the valley, and *they* that were on the other side Jordan, saw that the men of Israel fled, and that Saul and his sons were dead, they forsook the cities, and fled; and the Philis-tines came and dwelt in them.

And it came to pass on the morrow, when the Philistines 8 came to strip the slain, that they found Saul and his three sons fallen on mount Gilboa. And they cut off his head, 9 and stripped off his armour, and sent into the land of the Philistines round about, to publish *it in* the house of their idols, and among the people. And they put his armour in 10 the house of Ashtaroth; and they fastened his body to the wall of Beth-shan.

And when the inhabitants of Jabesh-gilead heard of that 11

12 which the Philistines had done to Saul, all the valiant men arose, and went all night, and took the body of Saul, and the bodies of his sons, from the wall of Beth-shan, and came
13 to Jabesh, and burnt them there. And they took their bones, and buried them under the tamarisk tree at Jabesh, and fasted seven days.

THE
SECOND BOOK OF SAMUEL.

CHAP. I.—Now it came to pass after the death of Saul, 1 when David had returned from the slaughter of the Amalekites, that David remained two days in Ziklag. And it came 2 to pass on the third day, that, behold, a man came out of the camp from Saul with his garments rent, and earth upon his head; and when he came to David, he fell to the ground, and did obeisance. And David said unto him, 3 “From whence comest thou?” And he said unto him, “Out of the camp of Israel am I escaped.” And David 4 said unto him, “How went the matter? I pray thee, tell me.” And he answered, that the people had fled from the battle, and many of the people also were fallen and dead; and Saul and Jonathan his son were dead also.

And David said unto the young man that told him, “How 5 knowest thou that Saul and Jonathan his son are dead?” And the young man that told him said, “As I happened to 6 be upon mount Gilboa, behold, Saul leaned upon his spear; and, lo, the chariots and horsemen followed closely after him. And when he looked behind him, he saw me, and called unto 7 me. And I answered, ‘Here am I.’ And he said unto me, 8 ‘Who art thou?’ And I answered him, ‘I am an Amalekite.’ He said unto me again, ‘Stand, I pray thee, upon 9 me, and slay me; for faintness hath seized me; for my life is yet whole in me.’ So I stood upon him, and slew him, 10 because I was sure that he could not live after that he was fallen; and I took the crown that was upon his head and the bracelet that was on his arm, and have brought them hither unto my lord.”

Then David took hold of his garments, and rent them; 11

12 and likewise all the men that were with him : and they mourned, and wept, and fasted until even, for Saul, and for Jonathan his son, and for the people of Jehovah, and for the house of Israel ; because they were fallen by the sword.

13 And David said unto the young man that told him, "Whence art thou ?" And he answered, "I am the son of 14 a stranger, an Amalekite." And David said unto him, "How wast thou not afraid to stretch forth thy hand to 15 destroy the anointed of Jehovah ?" And David called one of the young men, and said, "Draw near, and fall upon 16 him." And he smote him that he died. And David said unto him, "Thy blood be upon thy head ; for thy mouth hath testified against thee, saying, 'I have slain the anointed of Jehovah.'"

17 And David lamented *with* this lamentation over Saul and 18 over Jonathan his son (he also bade them teach the children of Judah *the song of* the bow ; behold, it is written in the book of Jasher) :—

19 The antelope, O Israel, is slain on thy high places ;
How are the mighty fallen !

20 Tell it not in Gath,
Publish it not in the streets of Askelon,
Lest the daughters of the Philistines rejoice,
Lest the daughters of the uncircumcised triumph.

21 Ye mountains of Gilboa, let there be no dew,
Neither rain, upon you, nor fields of offerings :
For there the shield of the mighty was vilely cast away,
The shield of Saul, not anointed with oil.

22 From the blood of the slain, from the fat of the mighty,
The bow of Jonathan turned not back,
And the sword of Saul returned not empty.

23 Saul and Jonathan were lovely and pleasant in their lives,
And in their death they were not divided ;
They were swifter than eagles, they were stronger than lions.

24 Ye daughters of Israel, weep over Saul,
Who clothed you in scarlet, delightfully,
Who put on ornaments of gold upon your apparel.

25 How are the mighty fallen in the midst of the battle !
O Jonathan, slain on thy high places,
I am distressed for thee, my brother Jonathan :

Very pleasant hast thou been unto me ;
Wonderful was thy love to me, surpassing the love of
women.

How are the mighty fallen,
And the weapons of war perished !

27

CHAP. II.—And it came to pass after this, that David 1 enquired of Jehovah, saying, “ Shall I go up into any of the cities of Judah ? ” And Jehovah said unto him, “ Go up.” And David said, “ Whither shall I go up ? ” And he said, “ Unto Hebron.” So David went up thither, and his 2 two wives also, Ahinoam the Jezreelite, and Abigail, wife of Nabal the Carmelite. And his men that were with him 3 did David bring up, every man with his household; and they dwelt in the cities of Hebron. And the men of Judah 4 came, and there they anointed David king over the house of Judah.

And they told David, saying, “ The men of Jabesh-gilead *were they* that buried Saul.” And David sent messengers 5 unto the men of Jabesh-gilead, and said unto him, “ Blessed be ye of Jehovah, that ye have shewed this kindness unto your lord, *even* unto Saul, and have buried him. And now 6 Jehovah shew kindness and truth unto you ; and I also will requite you this kindness, because ye have done this thing. Therefore now let your hands be strengthened, and be ye 7 valiant ; for your master Saul is dead, and also the house of Judah have anointed me king over them.”

But Abner the son of Ner, captain of Saul’s host, took 8 Ish-bosheth the son of Saul, and brought him over to Mahanaim ; and made him king over Gilead, and over the Ashur- 9 ites, and over Jezreel, and over Ephraim, and over Benjamin, and over all Israel. Ish-bosheth Saul’s son was forty years 10 old when he became king over Israel, and he reigned two years. But the house of Judah followed David. And the 11 time that David was king in Hebron over the house of Judah was seven years and six months.

And Abner the son of Ner, and the servants of Ish- 12 bosheth the son of Saul, went out from Mahanaim to Gibeon. And Joab the son of Zeruiyah, and the servants of David, 13 went out ; and they met together by the pool of Gibeon : and they sat down, the one on the one side of the pool, and the other on the other side of the pool. And Abner said to 14 Joab, “ Let the young men now arise, and play before us.”

- 15 And Joab said, "Let them arise." Then there arose and went over by number twelve of Benjamin, who *belonged* to Ish-bosheth the son of Saul, and twelve of the servants of David. And they caught every one his fellow by the head, and *thrust* his sword in his fellow's side; so they fell down together: wherefore that place was called Helkath-hazzirim.
- 16 [FIELD OF ADVERSARIES], which is in Gibeon. And there was a very hard battle that day; and Abner was beaten, and the men of Israel, before the servants of David.
- 17 And there were three sons of Zeruiah there, Joab, and Abishai, and Asahel: and Asahel was light of foot as a wild antelope. And Asahel pursued after Abner; and in going he turned not to the right hand nor to the left from following Abner. Then Abner looked behind him, and said,
- 21 "Art thou Asahel?" And he answered, "I am." And Abner said to him, "Turn thee aside to thy right hand or to thy left, and lay thee hold on one of the young men, and take his armour." But Asahel would not turn aside from following him. And Abner said again to Asahel, "Turn thee aside from following me; wherefore should I smite thee to the ground? how then should I hold up my face to Joab thy brother?" Howbeit he refused to turn aside; wherefore Abner with the hinder end of the spear smote him in the belly, that the spear came out behind him; and he fell down there, and died in the same place: and it came to pass, that all who came to the place where Asahel fell down and died stood still. And Joab and Abishai pursued after Abner; and the sun went down when they were come to the hill of Ammah, that *lieth* before Giah by the way of the wilderness of Gibeon.
- 25 And the children of Benjamin gathered themselves together after Abner, and became one band, and stood on the top of a hill. Then Abner called to Joab, and said, "Shall the sword devour for ever? knowest thou not that it will be bitterness in the latter end? how long shall it be then, before thou bid the people return from following their brethren?" And Joab said, "As God liveth, hadst thou not spoken, surely then in the morning the people had gone up every one from following his brother." So Joab blew a trumpet, and all the people stood still, and pursued after Israel no more, neither fought they any more.
- 29 And Abner and his men walked all that night through the plain, and passed over the Jordan, and went through

all Bithron, and they came to Mahanaim. And Joab re-²⁰ turned from following Abner : and when he had gathered all the people together, there were missing of David's ser-vants nineteen men and Asahel. But the servants of David ²¹ had smitten of Benjamin, among Abner's men, three hun-dred and threescore men, *and* they were dead. And they ³² took up Asahel, and buried him in the sepulchre of his father, which was in Beth-lehem. And Joab and his men went all night, and they came to Hebron at break of day.

CHAP. III.—Now the war was long between the house ¹ of Saul and the house of David ; but David grew stronger and stronger, and the house of Saul grew weaker and weaker. And unto David were sons born in Hebron : and his first-² born was Amnon, of Ahinoam, the Jezreelitee ; and his ³ second, Chileab, of Abigail the wife of Nabal the Carmelite ; and the third, Absalom the son of Maachah the daughter of Talmai king of Geshur ; and the fourth, Adonijah the son ⁴ of Haggith ; and the fifth, Shephatiah the son of Abital ; ⁵ and the sixth, Ithream, by Eglah David's wife. These were born to David in Hebron.

And it came to pass, while there was war between the ⁶ house of Saul and the house of David, that Abner adhered to the house of Saul. Now Saul had a concubine, whose ⁷ name was Rizpah, the daughter of Ahiah : and *Ish-bosheth* said to Abner, “ Wherefore hast thou gone in unto my father's concubine ? ” Then was Abner very wroth for the ⁸ words of Ish-bosheth, and said, “ Am I a dog's head of Judah ? I do shew kindness this day unto the house of Saul thy father, to his brethren, and to his friends, and have not delivered thee into the hand of David ; and wilt thou charge me this day with a fault concerning this woman ? So ⁹ do God to Abner, and more also ! as Jehovah hath sworn to David, even so will I do to him ; to transfer the kingdom ¹⁰ from the house of Saul, and to set up the throne of David over Israel and over Judah, from Dan even to Beer-sheba.” And he could not answer Abner a word again, because he ¹¹ feared him.

And Abner sent messengers to David on his behalf, saying, ¹² “ Whose is the land ? ” saying *also*, “ Make thy covenant with me, and, behold, my hand shall be with thee, to bring over all Israel unto thee.” And he said, “ Well ; I will make a ¹³ covenant with thee ; but one thing I require of thee, that is,

Thou shalt not see my face, except thou first bring Michal
14 Saul's daughter, when thou comest to see my face." And David sent messengers to Ish-bozeth Saul's son, saying,
"Give up my wife Michal, whom I espoused to me for
15 a hundred foreskins of the Philistines." And Ish-bozeth sent, and took her from her husband, even from Phaltiel the
16 son of Laish. And her husband went along with her weeping
17 behind her to Bahurim. Then said Abner unto him,
"Go, return." And he returned.

17 And Abner communicated with the elders of Israel, saying, "Ye sought for David in times past to be king over you :
18 now then do it ; for Jehovah hath spoken of David, saying,
'By the hand of my servant David I will save my people
19 Israel out of the hand of the Philistines, and out of the
hand of all their enemies.'" And Abner also spake in the
ears of Benjamin : and Abner went also to speak in the ears
of David in Hebron all that seemed good to Israel, and that
20 seemed good to the whole house of Benjamin. And when
Abner came to David to Hebron, with twenty men, David
made a feast for Abner and the men that were with him.
21 And Abner said unto David, "I will arise and go, and will
gather all Israel unto my lord the king, that they may make
a covenant with thee, and that thou mayest reign over all
that thine heart desireth." And David sent Abner away ;
and he went in peace.

22 And, behold, the servants of David and Joab came from
an expedition, and brought in a great spoil with them ; but
Abner was not with David in Hebron ; for he had sent him
23 away, and he was gone in peace. When Joab and all the
host that was with him were come, they told Joab, saying,
"Abner the son of Ner came to the king, and he hath sent
24 him away, and he is gone in peace." Then Joab came to
the king, and said, "What hast thou done ? behold, Abner
came unto thee ; why is it that thou hast sent him away, and
25 he is quite gone ? Thou knowest Abner the son of Ner,
that he came to deceive thee, and to know thy going out and
thy coming in, and to know all that thou doest."

26 And when Joab was come out from David, he sent mes-
sengers after Abner, who brought him again from the well of
27 Sirah ; but David knew it not. And when Abner had re-
turned to Hebron, Joab took him aside in the gate to speak
with him quietly, and smote him there in the belly, that he
died, for the blood of Asahel his brother.

And afterward when David heard it, he said, “I and my ²⁸ kingdom are guiltless before Jehovah for ever of the blood of Abner the son of Ner: let it rest on the head of Joab, ²⁹ and on all his father’s house; and let there not fail from the house of Joab one that hath an issue, or that is a leper, or that leaneth on a staff, or that falleth on the sword, or that lacketh bread.” Thus Joab and Abishai his brother slew so Abner, because he had slain their brother Asahel at Gibeon in the battle.

And David said to Joab, and to all the people that were ³¹ with him, “Rend your garments, and gird you with sack-cloth, and mourn before Abner.” And king David followed behind the bier. And they buried Abner in Hebron: and ³² the king lifted up his voice, and wept at the grave of Abner; and all the people wept. And the king lamented over Abner, ³³ and said,

“Died Abner as a fool dieth?

Thy hands were not bound,

Nor thy feet put into fetters;

As a man falleth before wicked men, *so* fellest thou.”

And all the people wept again over him. And when all ³⁵ the people came to cause David to eat bread while it was yet day, David sware, saying, “So do God to me, and more also, if I taste bread, or aught else, before the sun go down.” And all the people took notice of *it*, and it pleased them; as ³⁶ whatsoever the king did pleased all the people. And all the ³⁷ people and all Israel knew that day that it was not *the will* of the king to slay Abner the son of Ner.

And the king said unto his servants, “Know ye not that ³⁸ there is a prince and a great man fallen this day in Israel? And I am this day weak, though anointed king; and these ³⁹ men the sons of Zeruiah are too hard for me: Jehovah shall reward the doer of evil according to his wickedness.”

CHAP. IV.—And when the son of Saul heard that ¹ Abner was dead in Hebron, his hands were feeble, and all the Israelites were troubled. And the son of Saul had two ² men that were captains of bands: the name of the one was Baanah, and the name of the other Rechab, the sons of Rimmon a Beerothite, of the children of Benjamin (for Beeroth also was reckoned to Benjamin; and the Beerothites ³ fled to Gittaim, and are sojourners there until this day).

And Jonathan, the son of Saul, had a son that was lame ⁴

in his feet. He was five years old when the tidings came of Saul and Jonathan, out of Jezreel, and his nurse took him up, and fled ; and it came to pass, as she made haste to flee, that he fell, and became lame. And his name was Mephibosheth.

5 And the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, Rechab and Baanah, went, and came about the heat of the day to the 6 house of Ish-bosheth, who lay on a bed at noon. And they came thither into the midst of the house, to fetch wheat ; and they smote him in the belly ; and Rechab and Baanah his 7 brother escaped. For when they came into the house, he lay on his bed in his bedchamber, and they smote him, and slew him, and beheaded him, and took his head, and went away 8 through the plain all night. And they brought the head of Ish-bosheth unto David to Hebron, and said to the king, “Behold the head of Ish-bosheth the son of Saul thine enemy, who sought thy life ; and Jehovah hath avenged my lord the king this day of Saul, and of his seed.”

9 And David answered Rechab and Baanah his brother, the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, and said unto them, “As Jehovah liveth, who hath redeemed my soul out of all ad- 10 versity, when one told me, saying, ‘Behold, Saul is dead,’ (thinking that he brought good tidings,) I took hold of him, and slew him in Ziklag, who thought that I would give him 11 a reward for his tidings : how much more, when wicked men have slain a righteous man in his own house upon his bed ? shall I not therefore now require his blood of your hand, and 12 take you away from the earth ?” And David commanded his young men, and they slew them, and cut off their hands and their feet, and hanged them up over the pool in Hebron. But they took the head of Ish-bosheth, and buried it in the sepulchre of Abner in Hebron. :

1 CHAP. V.—Then came all the tribes of Israel to David unto Hebron, and spake, saying, “Behold, we are thy bone 2 and thy flesh. Even in time past, when Saul was king over us, thou wast he that leddest out and broughtest in Israel ; and Jehovah said to thee, ‘Thou shalt feed my people Israel, 3 and thou shalt be ruler over Israel.’” So all the elders of Israel came to the king to Hebron ; and king David made a league with them in Hebron before Jehovah ; and they 4 anointed David king over Israel. David was thirty years

old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. In 5 Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months; and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty and three years over all Israel and Judah.

And the king and his men went to Jerusalem unto the 6 Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land. And they spake unto David, saying, "Thou shalt not come in hither; but the blind and the lame shall repel thee;" meaning, David cannot come in hither. Nevertheless David took the strong- 7 hold of Zion; the same is the city of David. And David 8 said on that day, "Whosoever getteth up to the watercourse, and smiteth the Jebusites, and the lame and the blind, *that are hated of David's soul, he shall be chief and captain.*" Wherefore they say, "The blind and the lame shall not come into the house."

So David dwelt in the strong-hold, and called it the city of 9 David. And David built round about from Millo and inward. And David became continually greater, and Jehovah 10 God of hosts was with him.

And Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, and 11 cedar trees, and carpenters, and masons; and they built David a house. And David knew that Jehovah had esta- 12 blished him to be king over Israel, and that he had exalted his kingdom for his people Israel's sake.

And David took more concubines and wives out of Jeru- 13 salem, after he was come from Hebron: and there were more sons and daughters born to David. And these are the names 14 of those that were born unto him in Jerusalem; Shammuah, and Shobab, and Nathan, and Solomon, and Ibhar, and 15 Elishua, and Nepheg, and Japhia, and Elishama, and Eliada, 16 and Eliphalet.

And when the Philistines heard that they had anointed 17 David king over Israel, all the Philistines came up to seek David; and David heard of it, and went down to the de- fenses. The Philistines also came and spread themselves in 18 the valley of Rephaim. And David enquired of Jehovah, 19 saying, "Shall I go up against the Philistines? wilt thou deliver them into my hand?" And Jehovah said unto David, "Go up, for I will surely deliver the Philistines into thy hand." And David came to Baal-perazim, and David 20 smote them there, and said, "Jehovah hath broken forth upon mine enemies before me, as the breaking forth of

waters." Therefore he called the name of that place Baal-
 21 perazim [PLACE OF DEFEATS]. And there they left their
 images, and David and his men took them away.

22 And the Philistines came up yet again, and spread them-
 23 selves in the valley of Rephaim. And when David enquired
 of Jehovah, he said, "Thou shalt not go up; but turn
 round into their rear, and come upon them over against the
 24 balsam trees. And let it be, when thou hearest the sound of
 marching in the tops of the balsam trees, that then thou
 shalt bestir thyself; for then shall Jehovah go forth before
 25 thee, to smite the host of the Philistines." And David did
 so, as Jehovah had commanded him; and smote the Philis-
 tines from Geba until thou come to Gazer.

1 CHAP. VI.—And David again gathered together all the
 2 chosen men of Israel, thirty thousand. And David arose,
 and went with all the people that were with him from Baale
 of Judah, to bring up from thence the ark of God, at which
 the name, the name of Jehovah of hosts that dwelleth *be-*
tween the cherubim, is invoked.

3 And they set the ark of God upon a new waggon, and
 brought it out of the house of Abinadab that was on the
 hill: and Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, drove the
 4 new waggon. And they brought it out of the house of
 Abinadab, which was on the hill, accompanying the ark of
 5 God: and Ahio went before the ark. And David and all the
 house of Israel played before Jehovah on all manner of *in-*
*stru**m**e**n**t**s* of fir wood, and on harps, and on psalteries, and
 on tabrets, and on cornets, and on cymbals.

6 And when they came to Nachon's threshingfloor, Uzzah
 put forth *his hand* to the ark of God, and took hold of it;
 7 for the oxen shook it. And the anger of Jehovah was
 kindled against Uzzah; and God smote him there for his
 8 error; and there he died by the ark of God. And David
 was angry, because Jehovah had broken forth upon Uzzah:
 and he called the name of the place Perez-uzzah [DEFEAT
 OR UZZAH] to this day.

9 And David was afraid of Jehovah that day, and said,
 10 "How shall the ark of Jehovah come to me?" So David
 would not remove the ark of Jehovah unto him into the
 city of David; but David carried it aside into the house of
 11 Obed-edom the Gittite. And the ark of Jehovah remained

in the house of Obed-edom the Gittite three months ; and Jehovah blessed Obed-edom, and all his household.

And it was told king David, saying, "Jehovah hath 12 blessed the house of Obed-edom, and all that he hath, because of the ark of God." So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-edom into the city of David, with gladness. And it was so, that when they 13 that bare the ark of Jehovah had gone six paces, he sacrificed oxen and fatlings. And David danced before Jehovah 14 with all his might; and David was girded with a linen ephod. So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of 15 Jehovah with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet.

And as the ark of Jehovah came into the city of David, 16 Michal Saul's daughter looked through the window, and saw king David leaping and dancing before Jehovah ; and she despised him in her heart.

And they brought in the ark of Jehovah, and set it in 17 its place, in the midst of the tabernacle that David had pitched for it ; and David offered burnt-offerings and peace-offerings before Jehovah. And as soon as David had made 18 an end of offering burnt-offerings and peace-offerings, he blessed the people in the name of Jehovah of hosts. And 19 he dealt among all the people, among the whole multitude of Israel, both men and women, to every one a cake of bread, and a measure of wine, and a raisin-cake. So all the people departed every one to his house.

And when David returned to salute his household, Michal 20 the daughter of Saul came out to meet David, and said, "How glorious was the king of Israel to-day, who uncovered himself to-day in the eyes of the handmaids of his servants, as one of the worthless uncovereth himself!" And David 21 said unto Michal, "*It was* before Jehovah, who chose me in place of thy father, and all his house, to appoint me ruler over the people of Jehovah, over Israel ; therefore did I dance before Jehovah. And I will be yet more vile than this, and 22 will be abased in thy sight ; but of the handmaids whom thou hast spoken of, of them shall I be had in honour." Therefore Michal the daughter of Saul had no child unto the 23 day of her death.

CHAP. VII.—And it came to pass, when the king sat in 1 his house, and Jehovah had given him rest from all his ene-

2 mies round about ; that the king said unto Nathan the prophet, " See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of 3 God dwelleth within curtains." And Nathan said to the king, " Go, do all that is in thy heart, for Jehovah is with thee."

4 And it came to pass that night, that the word of Jehovah 5 came unto Nathan, saying, " Go and tell my servant David, ' Thus saith Jehovah, Shalt thou build a house for me to 6 dwell in ?—whereas I have not dwelt in a house since the time that I brought up the children of Israel out of Egypt, even to this day, but have continued in a tent and in a tabernacle. In all *the places* wherein I have continued with all the children of Israel spake I a word with any of the tribes of Israel, whom I commanded to feed my people Israel, saying, Why build ye not for me a house of cedar ?' Now therefore thus shalt thou say unto my servant David, ' Thus saith Jehovah of hosts, I took thee from the sheepcote, from following the sheep, to be ruler over my people, over Israel ; 9 and I was with thee whithersoever thou wentest, and have cut off all thine enemies before thee, and have made thee a great name, like unto the name of the great *men* that are in the 10 earth. Moreover I have appointed a place for my people Israel, and planted them, that they may dwell in their own place, and be disturbed no more ; and that the children of 11 wickedness may not afflict them any more, as beforetime, and as since the time that I commanded judges to be over my people Israel ; and I have caused thee to rest from all thine enemies. Jehovah therefore telleth thee that Jehovah will make 12 thee a house : when thy days shall be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will confirm 13 his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I 14 will confirm the throne of his kingdom for ever. I will be his father, and he shall be my son. If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes 15 of the children of men : but my mercy shall not depart away from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away before thee. And thy house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee; thy throne shall be confirmed 17 for ever.' " According to all these words, and according to all this vision, so did Nathan speak unto David.
18 Then went king David in, and sat before Jehovah, and he said, " Who am I, O Lord Jehovah ? and what is my house,

that thou hast brought me thus far? But this was yet a 19 small thing in thy sight, O Lord Jehovah; and thou hast spoken also of thy servant's house for a great while to come. And this is the manner of man, O Lord Jehovah. And what 20 can David say more unto thee? for thou knowest thy servant, O Lord Jehovah. For thy word's sake, and according to 21 thine own heart, hast thou done all these great things, to make thy servant know *them*. Wherefore thou art great, O 22 Jehovah God; for there is none like thee, and no God beside thee, according to all that we have heard with our ears. And what one nation in the earth is like thy people, like 23 Israel, whom God came to redeem for a people to himself, and to make him a name, and to do for you great things and terrible, for thy land, before thy people, which thou redeepest to thee from Egypt, *from* the nations and their gods? For thou hast confirmed to thyself thy people Israel to be a 24 people unto thee for ever: and thou, O Jehovah, art become their God. And now, O Jehovah God, the word that thou hast 25 spoken concerning thy servant, and concerning his house, establish it for ever, and do as thou hast said. And let thy 26 name be magnified for ever, saying, 'Jehovah of hosts is God over Israel;' and let the house of thy servant David be confirmed before thee. For thou, O Jehovah of hosts, God 27 of Israel, hast revealed to thy servant, saying, 'I will build thee a house;' therefore hath thy servant found in his heart to pray this prayer unto thee. And now, O Lord Jehovah, 28 thou art God, and thy words will be truth, and thou hast promised this goodness unto thy servant; therefore now let 29 it please thee to bless the house of thy servant, that it may continue for ever before thee; for thou, O Lord Jehovah, hast spoken it; and with thy blessing let the house of thy servant be blessed for ever."

CHAP. VIII.—And after this it came to pass, that David 1 smote the Philistines, and subdued them; and David took their chief city out of the hand of the Philistines. And he 2 smote Moab, and measured them with a line, casting them down to the ground; even two lines he measured to put to death, and one full line to keep alive. And the Moabites became David's servants, and brought gifts.

David smote also Hadadezer, the son of Rehob, king of 3 Zobah, as he went to recover his power at the river Euphrates. And David took from him a thousand and seven hundred 4

horsemen, and twenty thousand footmen : and David houghed
5 all the chariot-horses, but reserved a hundred of them. And
when the Syrians of Damascus came to succour Hadadezer
king of Zobah, David slew of the Syrians two and twenty
6 thousand men. Then David put garrisons in Syria of Da-
mascus ; and the Syrians became servants to David, *and*
brought gifts. And Jehovah made David victorious whither-
7 soever he went. And David took the shields of gold that
were on the servants of Hadadezer, and brought them to
8 Jerusalem. And from Betah, and from Berothai, cities of
Hadadezer, king David took exceeding much brass.

9 And when Toi king of Hamath heard that David had
10 smitten all the host of Hadadezer, Toi sent Joram his son
unto king David, to ask after his welfare, and to salute him,
because he had fought against Hadadezer, and smitten him :
for Toi was at war with Hadadezer. And *Joram* brought
with him vessels of silver, and vessels of gold, and vessels of
11 brass ; which also king David did dedicate unto Jehovah,
with the silver and gold that he had dedicated of all nations
12 which he subdued ; of Syria, and of Moab, and of the chil-
dren of Ammon, and of the Philistines, and of Amalek, and
of the spoil of Hadadezer, son of Rehob, king of Zobah.

13 And David made himself a name when he returned from
smiting the Syrians in the valley of salt, eighteen thousand
14 men. And he put garrisons in Edom ; throughout all Edom
he put garrisons, and all they of Edom became David's ser-
vants. And Jehovah made David victorious whithersoever
he went.

15 And David reigned over all Israel ; and David executed
16 judgment and justice for all his people. And Joab the son
of Zeruiyah was over the host ; and Jehoshaphat the son
17 of Ahilud was recorder ; and Zadok the son of Ahitub, and
Ahimelech the son of Abiathar, were priests ; and Seraiah
18 was scribe ; and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over both
the lictors and the harbingers ; and sons of David were
priests.

1 CHAP. IX.—And David said, “ Is there yet any that is
left of the house of Saul, that I may shew him kindness for
2 Jonathan's sake ? ” And there was of the house of Saul a
servant whose name was Ziba. And when they had called
him unto David, the king said unto him, “ Art thou Ziba ? ”
3 And he said, “ Thy servant is he.” And the king said, “ Is

there not yet any of the house of Saul that I may shew the kindness of God unto him?" And Ziba said unto the king, "There is yet a son of Jonathan, *who is lame in his feet.*" And the king said unto him, "Where is he?"⁴ And Ziba said unto the king, "Behold he is in the house of Machir, the son of Ammiel, in Lo-debar." Then king⁵ David sent, and fetched him out of the house of Machir, the son of Ammiel, from Lo-debar.

Now when Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, the son⁶ of Saul, was come unto David, he fell on his face, and did reverence. And David said, "Mephibosheth." And he answered, "Behold thy servant!" And David said unto⁷ him, "Fear not; for I will surely shew thee kindness for Jonathan thy father's sake, and will restore thee all the land of Saul thy father; and thou shalt eat bread at my table continually." And he bowed himself and said, "What is⁸ thy servant, that thou shouldest look upon such a dead dog as I am?"

Then the king called to Ziba, Saul's servant, and said unto⁹ him, "I have given unto thy master's son all that pertained to Saul and to all his house. Thou therefore shalt till the¹⁰ land for him, thou and thy sons, and thy servants, and thou shalt bring in *the produce*, that thy master's son may have food to eat; but Mephibosheth thy master's son shall eat bread continually at my table." Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants. Then said Ziba unto the king, "Ac-¹¹ cording to all that my lord the king hath commanded his servant, so shall thy servant do." "As for Mephibosheth," said the king, "he shall eat at my table as one of the king's sons." And Mephibosheth had a young son whose name was¹² Micah. And all that dwelt in the house of Ziba were servants unto Mephibosheth. So Mephibosheth dwelt in Jeru-¹³ salem; for he did eat continually at the king's table; and he was lame in both his feet.

CHAP. X.—And it came to pass after this, that the king¹ of the children of Ammon died, and Hanun his son reigned in his stead. Then said David, "I will shew kindness unto² Hanun the son of Nahash, as his father shewed kindness unto me." And David sent to comfort him for his father, by the hand of his servants. And David's servants came into the land of the children of Ammon. And the captains of the³ children of Ammon said unto Hanun their lord, "Thinkest

thou that David doth honour thy father, that he hath sent comforters unto thee? hath not David sent his servants unto thee, to search the city, and to spy it out, and to overthrow it?" Wherefore Hanun took David's servants, and shaved off the half of their beards, and cut off their garments in the middle, *even* to their loins, and sent them away. When they told it unto David, he sent to meet them, because the men were greatly ashamed: and the king said, "Tarry at Jericho until your beards be grown, and *then* return."

6 And when the children of Ammon saw that they were abhorred by David, the children of Ammon sent and hired the Syrians of Beth-rehob, and the Syrians of Zoba, twenty thousand footmen, and king Maacah, *with* a thousand men, and the men of Tob twelve thousand men.

7 And when David heard of it, he sent Joab, and all the host of the mighty men. And the children of Ammon came out, and put the battle in array at the entering in of the gate: and the Syrians of Zoba, and Rehob, and the men of Tob, and Maacah, were by themselves in the field. 9 When Joab saw that the front of the battle was against him before and behind, he chose of all the choice men of Israel, 10 and put them in array against the Syrians; and the rest of the people he delivered into the hand of Abishai his brother, that he might put them in array against the children of 11 Ammon. And he said, "If the Syrians be too strong for me, then thou shalt help me; but if the children of Ammon 12 be too strong for thee, then I will come and help thee. Be of good courage, and let us shew ourselves men for our people, and for the cities of our God: and Jehovah will do that which seemeth him good."

13 And Joab drew nigh, and the people that were with him, unto the battle against the Syrians: and they fled 14 before him. And when the children of Ammon saw that the Syrians were fled, then fled they also before Abishai, and entered into the city. So Joab returned from the children of Ammon, and came to Jerusalem.

15 And when the Syrians saw that they were smitten before 16 Israel, they gathered themselves together. And Hadarezer sent, and brought out the Syrians that were beyond the river: and they came to Helam; and Shobach, the captain 17 of the host of Hadarezer, *went* before them. And when it was told David, he gathered all Israel together, and passed

over Jordan, and came to Helam. And the Syrians set themselves in array against David, and fought with him. And the Syrians fled before Israel ; and David slew *the men*¹⁸ of seven hundred chariots of the Syrians, and forty thousand horsemen, and smote Shobach the captain of their host, who died there. And when all the kings *that were* servants to ¹⁹ Hadarezer saw that they were smitten before Israel, they made peace with Israel, and served them. So the Syrians feared to help the children of Ammon any more.

CHAP. XI.—And it came to pass, at the return of the year, ¹ at the time when the kings came forth, that David sent Joab, and his servants with him, and all Israel ; and they destroyed the children of Ammon, and besieged Rabbah. But David tarried still at Jerusalem.

And it came to pass at eventide, that David arose from off ² his bed, and walked upon the roof of the king's house : and from the roof he saw a woman bathing herself ; and the woman was very beautiful to look upon. And David sent ³ and enquired after the woman. And they said, “Is not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite ?” And David sent messengers, and took her ; and ⁴ she came in unto him, and he lay with her ; and she purified herself from her uncleanness, and returned unto her house. And the woman conceived, and sent and told David, and ⁵ said, “I am with child.” And David sent to Joab, saying,⁶ “Send me Uriah the Hittite.” And Joab sent Uriah to David.

And when Uriah was come unto him, David asked how ⁷ Joab did, and how the people did, and how the war prospered. And David said to Uriah, “Go down to thy house, ⁸ and wash thy feet.” And Uriah departed out of the king's house, and there followed him a present from the king. But ⁹ Uriah slept at the door of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and went not down to his house. And ¹⁰ when they had told David, saying, “Uriah went not down unto his house,” David said unto Uriah, “Camest thou not from *thy* journey ? why *then* didst thou not go down unto thy house ?” And Uriah said unto David, “The ark, and ¹¹ Israel, and Judah, abide in tents ; and my lord Joab, and the servants of my lord, are encamped in the open fields ; shall I then go into my house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife ? as thou livest, and as thy soul liveth, I

12 will not do this thing." And David said to Uriah, "Tarry here to-day also, and to-morrow I will let thee depart." So 13 Uriah tarried in Jerusalem that day, and the morrow. And David called him in, and he did eat and drink before him; and he made him drunk: and at even he went out to lie on his bed with the servants of his lord, but went not down to his house.

14 And it came to pass in the morning, that David wrote a 15 letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah. And he wrote in the letter, saying, "Set ye Uriah in the front of the hottest battle, and retire ye from him, that he may be smitten, and die."

16 And it came to pass, when Joab observed the city, that he assigned Uriah unto a place where he knew that valiant men 17 were. And the men of the city came out, and fought with Joab: and there fell some of the people of the servants of David; and Uriah the Hittite died also.

18 Then Joab sent and told David all the things concerning 19 the war; and charged the messenger, saying, "When thou hast made an end of telling the matters of the war unto the 20 king, and if so be that the king's wrath arise, and he say unto thee, 'Wherefore approached ye so nigh unto the city when ye did fight? knew ye not that they would shoot from 21 the wall? Who smote Abimelech the son of Jerubbesheth? did not a woman cast a piece of a millstone upon him from the wall, that he died in Thebez? why went ye nigh the wall?' then say thou, 'Thy servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also.'"

22 So the messenger went, and came and told David all that 23 Joab had sent him for. And the messenger said unto David, "Because the men prevailed against us, and came out unto us into the field, we withheld them even unto the entering of 24 the gate: and the shooters shot from off the wall upon thy servants; and some of the king's servants are dead, and thy 25 servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also." Then David said unto the messenger, "Thus shalt thou say unto Joab, 'Let not this thing displease thee, for the sword devoureth one as well as another; make thy battle more strong against the city, and overthrow it:' and encourage thou him."

26 And when the wife of Uriah heard that Uriah her husband 27 was dead, she mourned for her husband. And when the mourning was past, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife, and bare him a son.

But the thing that David had done displeased Jehovah:—

CHAP. XII.—And Jehovah sent Nathan unto David. 1
 And he came unto him, and said unto him, “There were two men in one city; the one rich, and the other poor. The rich 2 man had exceeding many flocks and herds: but the poor man 3 had nothing, save one little ewe-lamb, which he had bought and nourished up; and it grew up together with him, and with his children; it did eat of his own meat, and drank of his own cup, and lay in his bosom, and was unto him as a daughter. And there came a traveller unto the rich man, 4 and he spared to take of his own flock and of his own herd, to dress for the wayfaring man that was come unto him; but took the poor man’s lamb, and dressed it for the man that was come to him.”

And David’s anger was greatly kindled against the man; 5 and he said to Nathan, “As Jehovah liveth, the man that hath done this thing deserveth to die; and he shall restore 6 the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.”

And Nathan said to David, “Thou art the man. Thus saith 7 Jehovah God of Israel, ‘I anointed thee king over Israel, and I delivered thee out of the hand of Saul; and I gave thee thy 8 master’s house, and thy master’s wives into thy bosom, and gave thee the house of Israel and of Judah; and if *that had been* too little, I would moreover have given thee other such things. Wherefore hast thou despised the commandment of 9 Jehovah, to do evil in his sight? thou hast killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and hast taken his wife to be thy wife, and hast slain him with the sword of the children of Ammon. Now therefore the sword shall never depart from thy house; 10 because thou hast despised me, and hast taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be thy wife.’ Thus saith Jehovah, ‘Be- 11 hold, I will raise up evil against thee out of thine own house, and I will take thy wives before thine eyes, and give them to thy neighbour, and he shall lie with thy wives in the sight of this sun: for thou didst it secretly; but I will do this thing 12 before all Israel, and before the sun.’”

And David said unto Nathan, “I have sinned against Je- 13 hovah.” And Nathan said unto David, “Jehovah also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die. Howbeit, because by 14 this deed thou hast given occasion to the enemies of Jehovah to blaspheme, the son also that is born unto thee shall surely die.” And Nathan departed unto his house. 15

And Jehovah struck the child that Uriah’s wife bare unto

16 David, and it was very sick. David, therefore, besought God
for the boy ; and David fasted and went in, and lay all night
17 upon the earth. And the elders of his house arose, *and came*
to him, to raise him up from the earth ; but he would not,
18 neither did he eat bread with them. And it came to pass on
the seventh day, that the child died. And the servants of
David feared to tell him that the child was dead ; for they
said, "Behold, while the child was yet alive, we spake unto
him, and he would not hearken unto our voice ; how shall
we then tell him that the child is dead ?—for he may do *some*
19 evil." But when David saw that his servants whispered,
David perceived that the child was dead ; therefore David
said unto his servants, "Is the child dead ?" And they said,
20 "He is dead." Then David arose from the earth, and
washed, and anointed himself, and changed his apparel, and
went into the house of Jehovah, and worshipped : then he
came to his own house ; and when he required, they set
21 bread before him, and he did eat. Then said his servants
unto him, "What thing is this that thou hast done ? thou
didst fast and weep for the child, *while* alive ; but when the
22 child was dead, thou didst rise and eat bread." And he
said, "While the child was yet alive, I fasted and wept : for
I said, Who can tell *whether* God will be gracious to me,
23 that the child may live ? But now he is dead, wherefore
should I fast ? can I bring him back again ? I shall go to
him, but he shall not return to me."

24 And David comforted Bathsheba his wife, and went in
unto her, and lay with her ; and she bare a son, and he called
25 his name Solomon : and Jehovah loved him. And he sent
by the hand of Nathan the prophet ; and he called his name
Jedidiah [BELOVED OF JEHOVAH], because of Jehovah.

26 And Joab fought against Rabbah of the children of Am-
27 mon, and took the royal city. And Joab sent messengers to
David, and said, "I have fought against Rabbah, and have
28 taken the city of waters. Now therefore gather the rest of
the people together, and encamp against the city, and take it ;
29 lest I take the city, and it be called after my name." And
David gathered all the people together, and went to Rabbah,
30 and fought against it, and took it. And he took their king's
crown from off his head, the weight thereof was a talent of
gold and precious stones ; and it was *set* on David's head.
And he brought forth the spoil of the city in great abund-
31 ance. And he brought forth the people that were therein,

and put them under saws, and under harrows of iron, and under axes of iron, and made them pass through the brick-kiln: and thus did he unto all the cities of the children of Ammon. So David and all the people returned unto Jerusalem.

CHAP. XIII.—And it came to pass after this, that 1 Absalom the son of David had a beautiful sister, whose name was Tamar; and Amnon the son of David loved her. - And 2 Amnon grieved, so that he fell sick for his sister Tamar; for she was a virgin; and it was difficult in the sight of Amnon to do anything to her. But Amnon had a friend, whose 3 name was Jonadab, the son of Shimeah David's brother; and Jonadab was a very cunning man. And he said unto 4 him, “Why art thou, the king's son, thus lean from day to day? wilt thou not tell me?” And Amnon said unto him, “I love Tamar, my brother Absalom's sister.” And Jona- 5 dab said unto him, “Lay thee down on thy bed, and feign thyself sick; and when thy father cometh to see thee, say unto him, ‘I pray thee, let my sister Tamar come, and give me meat, and dress the meat in my sight, that I may see it, and eat it at her hand.’”

So Amnon lay down, and feigned himself sick: and when 6 the king was come to see him, Amnon said unto the king, “I pray thee, let Tamar my sister come, and make me a couple of cakes in my sight, that I may eat at her hand.” Then David sent home to Tamar, saying, “Go now to thy 7 brother Amnon's house, and dress him meat.” So Tamar 8 went to her brother Amnon's house; and he was laid down. And she took dough, and kneaded it, and made cakes in his sight, and did bake the cakes. And she took a pan, and 9 poured them out before him; but he refused to eat. And Amnon said, “Let all men go out from me.” And they 10 went out every man from him.

And Amnon said unto Tamar, “Bring the meat into the 10 chamber, that I may eat at thy hand.” And Tamar took the cakes which she had made, and brought them into the chamber to Amnon her brother. And when she had brought them 11 unto him to eat, he took hold of her, and said unto her, “Come lie with me, my sister.” And she answered him, 12 “Nay, my brother, do not force me; for no such thing ought to be done in Israel; do not thou this folly. And I, whither 13 shall I cause my shame to go? and as for thee, thou shalt be

as one of the fools in Israel. Now therefore, I pray thee, speak unto the king ; for he will not withhold me from 14 thee." Howbeit he would not hearken unto her voice ; but, being stronger than she, forced her, and lay with her.

15 Then Amnon hated her exceedingly ; so that the hatred wherewith he hated her was greater than the love wherewith he had loved her. And Amnon said unto her, " Arise, be 16 gone." And she said unto him, " Be not the cause of an evil, by sending me away, greater than the other that thou hast done unto me." But he would not hearken unto her.

17 Then he called his servant that attended him, and said, " Put now this woman out from me, and bolt the door after 18 her." And she had a long-shaped garment upon her : for with such robes were the king's daughters *that were* virgins appareled. Then his servant brought her out, and bolted the door after her.

19 And Tamar put ashes on her head, and rent her long-shaped garment that was on her, and laid her hand on her 20 head, and went on crying. And Absalom her brother said unto her, " Hath Amnon thy brother been with thee ? but hold now thy peace, my sister ; he is thy brother ; regard not this thing." So Tamar remained and was solitary in her brother Absalom's house.

21 But when king David heard of all these things, he was 22 very wroth. And Absalom spake unto his brother Amnon neither good nor bad ; for Absalom hated Amnon, because he had forced his sister Tamar.

23 And it came to pass after two full years, that Absalom had sheepshearers in Baal-hazor, which is beside Ephraim ; and 24 Absalom invited all the king's sons. And Absalom came to the king, and said, " Behold now, thy servant hath sheep-shearers ; let the king, I beseech thee, and his servants go 25 with thy servant." And the king said to Absalom, " Nay, my son, let us not all go, lest we be burdensome unto thee." And he pressed him ; howbeit he would not go, but blessed 26 him. Then said Absalom, " If not, I pray thee, let my brother Amnon go with us." And the king said unto him, 27 " Why should he go with thee ?" But Absalom pressed him, that he let Amnon and all the king's sons go with him.

28 Now Absalom had commanded his servants, saying, " Mark ye now when Amnon's heart is merry with wine, and when I

say unto you, ‘Smite Amnon ;’ then kill him, fear not ; have not I commanded you ? be courageous, and be valiant.’” And the servants of Absalom did unto Amnon as Absalom ²⁹ had commanded. Then all the king’s sons arose, and every man mounted upon his mule, and fled.

And it came to pass, while they were on the way, that ³⁰ tidings came to David, saying, “Absalom hath slain all the king’s sons, and there is not one of them left.” Then the ³¹ king arose, and rent his garments, and lay on the earth ; and all his servants stood by with their clothes rent. And Jona- ³² dab, the son of Shimeah David’s brother, answered and said, “Let not my lord suppose they have slain all the young men the king’s sons ; for Amnon only is dead : for by the appointment of Absalom this hath been determined from the day that he forced his sister Tamar. Now therefore let not my ³³ lord the king take the thing to his heart, supposing that all the king’s sons are dead ; for Amnon only is dead.” But ³⁴ Absalom fled.

And the young man that kept the watch lifted up his eyes, and looked, and, behold, there came much people from the way behind him, from the hill side. And Jonadab said unto ³⁵ the king, “Behold, the king’s sons come ; as thy servant said, so it is.” And it came to pass, as soon as he had made an ³⁶ end of speaking, that, behold, the king’s sons came, and lifted up their voice and wept ; and the king also and all his servants wept very sorely.

But Absalom fled, and went to Talmai, the son of Ammi- ³⁷ hud, king of Geshur. And *David* mourned for his son every day.

So Absalom fled, and went to Geshur, and was there three ³⁸ years. And king David ceased to go forth against Absalom ; ³⁹ for he was comforted concerning the death of Amnon.

CHAP. XIV.—Then Joab the son of Zeruiah perceived that ¹ the king’s heart was *again* toward Absalom. And Joab sent ² to Tekoah, and fetched thence a wise woman, and said unto her, “I pray thee, feign thyself to be a mourner, and put on now mourning apparel, and anoint not thyself with oil, but be as a woman that had a long time mourned for one dead ; and come to the king, and speak in this manner unto ³ him.” So Joab put the words in her mouth.

And when the woman of Tekoah spake to the king, she ⁴ fell on her face to the ground, and did obeisance, and said,

5 "Help, O king." And the king said unto her, "What aileth thee?" And she answered, "Truly I am a widow woman,
 6 and my husband is dead. And thy handmaid had two sons, and they two strove together in the field, and there
 was none to part them, but the one smote the other and
 7 killed him. And, behold, the whole family is risen against
 thy handmaid, and they said, 'Deliver him that smote his
 brother, that we may kill him, for the life of his brother
 whom he slew; and we will destroy the heir also:' and so
 they shall quench my coal which is left, so as not to leave
 to my husband name or remainder upon the earth."

8 And the king said unto the woman, "Go to thy house,
 9 and I will give charge concerning thee." And the woman
 of Tekoah said unto the king, "My lord, O king, the ini-
 quity be on me, and on my father's house; and the king and
 10 his throne be guiltless." And the king said, "Whosoever
 speaketh against thee, bring him to me, and he shall not
 11 touch thee any more." Then said she, "I pray thee, let
 the king remember Jehovah thy God, that the avenger of
 blood may not destroy any more, lest they destroy my son."
 And he said, "As Jehovah liveth, there shall not one hair
 of thy son fall to the ground."

12 Then the woman said, "Let thy handmaid, I pray thee,
 speak a word unto my lord the king." And he said,
 13 "Say on." And the woman said, "Wherefore then hast
 thou thought thus against the people of God? for since the
 king doth speak this word, *he is* as one guilty, in that the
 14 king doth not bring back his banished *son*. For we must
 needs die, and are as water spilt on the ground, which
 cannot be gathered up again: neither doth God take away
 life; but he deviseth means, that he drive not from him one
 15 that is banished. Now therefore that I am come to speak
 of this thing unto my lord the king, it is because the people
 have made me afraid; and thy handmaid said, 'I will now
 speak unto the king; it may be that the king will grant
 16 the request of his handmaid: for the king will hear, to de-
 liver his handmaid out of the hand of the man *that would*
 destroy me and my son together out of the inheritance of
 17 God.' And thy handmaid said, 'The word of my lord the
 king shall now be *my* consolation; for as an angel of God,
 so is my lord the king, to discern good and evil; therefore
 Jehovah thy God be with thee."

18 Then the king answered and said unto the woman, "Hide
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not from me, I pray thee, the thing that I shall ask thee.” And the woman said, “Let my lord the king now speak.” And the king said, “Is *not* the hand of Joab with thee in ¹⁹ all this?” And the woman answered and said, “As thy soul liveth, my lord the king, none can turn to the right hand or to the left from ought that my lord the king hath spoken; for thy servant Joab he bade me, and he put all these words in the mouth of thy handmaid: to change ²⁰ the appearance of the matter hath thy servant Joab done this thing; and my lord is wise, according to the wisdom of an angel of God, to know all things that are in the earth.”

And the king said unto Joab, “Behold now, I have done ²¹ this thing; go therefore, bring the young man Absalom back.” And Joab fell to the ground on his face, and bowed himself, ²² and blessed the king: and Joab said, “To day thy servant knoweth that I have found favour in thy sight, my Lord, O king, in that the king hath granted the request of his servant.” So Joab arose and went to Geshur, and brought ²³ Absalom to Jerusalem. And the king said, “Let him turn ²⁴ to his own house, and let him not see my face.” so Absalom returned to his own house, and saw not the king’s face.

Now in all Israel there was not a man so beautiful as Ab- ²⁵ salom; so that they praised him greatly: from the sole of his foot even to the crown of his head there was no blemish in him. And when he shaved his head, (for it was from year ²⁶ to year that he shaved it; because *the hair* was heavy on him, therefore he shaved it:) he weighed the hair of his head at two hundred shekels after the king’s weight. And unto ²⁷ Absalom there were born three sons, and one daughter, whose name was Tamar: she was a woman of a beautiful countenance.

So Absalom dwelt two years in Jerusalem, and saw not ²⁸ the king’s face. Therefore Absalom sent for Joab, to have ²⁹ sent him to the king; but he would not come to him; and when he sent again the second time, he would not come. Therefore he said unto his servants, “See, Joab’s field is ³⁰ near mine, and he hath barley there; go and set it on fire.” And Absalom’s servants set the field on fire. Then Joab ³¹ arose, and came to Absalom unto *his* house, and said unto him, “Wherefore have thy servants set my field on fire?” And Absalom answered Joab, “Behold, I sent unto thee, say- ³² ing, ‘Come hither, that I may send thee to the king,’ to say, ‘Wherefore am I come from Geshur? it were better for me

were I still there ;' now therefore let me see the king's face ;
 33 and if there be iniquity in me, let him kill me." So Joab came to the king, and told him : and when he had called for Absalom, he came to the king, and bowed himself on his face to the ground before the king : and the king kissed Absalom.

1 CHAP. XV.—And it came to pass after this, that Absalom prepared him chariots and horses, and fifty men to run before 2 him. And Absalom rose up early, and stood beside the way of the gate : and when it happened that any man that had a suit came to the king for judgment, then Absalom called unto him, and said, "Of what city art thou ?" And he said, 3 "Thy servant is of one of the tribes of Israel." And Absalom said unto him, "See, thy matters are good and right ; 4 but there is no man from the king to hear thee." Absalom said moreover, "Oh that I were made judge in the land, that every man that hath any suit or cause might come unto 5 me, and I would do him justice !" And when any man came nigh to him to do him obeisance, he put forth his 6 hand, and took hold of him, and kissed him. And in this manner did Absalom to all Israel that came to the king for judgment : so Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel.

7 And it came to pass after four years, that Absalom said unto the king, "I pray thee, let me go and pay my vow, 8 which I have vowed unto Jehovah, in Hebron. For thy servant vowed a vow while I abode at Geshur in Syria, saying, If Jehovah shall bring me again indeed to Jerusalem, 9 then I will serve Jehovah." And the king said unto him, "Go in peace." So he arose, and went to Hebron.

10 But Absalom sent spies throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, "As soon as ye hear the sound of the trumpet, then 11 ye shall say, Absalom reigneth in Hebron." And with Absalom went two hundred men out of Jerusalem, that were summoned ; and they went in their integrity, and they knew 12 not anything. And Absalom sent for Ahithophel the Gilonite, David's counsellor, from his city, even from Giloh, while he offered sacrifices. And the conspiracy was strong ; for the people increased continually with Absalom.

13 And there came a messenger to David, saying, "The 14 hearts of the men of Israel are after Absalom." And David said unto all his servants that were with him at Jerusalem,

"Arise, and let us flee ; for we shall not *else* escape from Absalom ; make speed to depart, lest he overtake us speedily, and bring evil upon us, and smite the city with the edge of the sword." And the king's servants said unto the king, ¹⁵ "Behold, thy servants are we in whatsoever my lord the king shall appoint." And the king went forth, and all his ¹⁶ household after him. And the king left ten women, that were concubines, to keep the house.

And the king went forth, and all the people after him, ¹⁷ and halted in Beth-merhak. And all his servants passed ¹⁸ on beside him ; and all the lictors, and all the harbingers, and all the Gittites, six hundred men which came after him from Gath, passed on before the king. Then said the king ¹⁹ to Ittai the Gittite, "Wherefore goest thou also with us ? return, and abide with the king ; for thou art a stranger, and also an exile from thy place. Thou camest *but* yesterday, ²⁰ and shall I this day make thee wander about with us ? seeing I go whither I may, return thou, and take back thy brethren : mercy and truth be with thee." And Ittai an- ²¹ swered the king, and said, "As Jehovah liveth, and as my lord the king liveth, surely in whatever place my lord the king shall be, whether in death or life, even there also will thy servant be." And David said to Ittai, "Go and pass ²² over." And Ittai the Gittite passed over, and all his men, ²³ and all the little ones that were with him. And all the country wept with a loud voice, and all the people passed over : the king also passed over the brook Kidron, and all the people passed over, toward the way of the wilderness.

And lo Zadok also, and all the Levites were with him, ²⁴ bearing the ark of the covenant of God : and they set down the ark of God ; and Abiathar went up, until all the people had done passing out of the city. And the king said unto ²⁵ Zadok, "Carry back the ark of God into the city ; if I shall find favour in the eyes of Jehovah, he will bring me back, and let me *again* see it, and its habitation : but if he thus say, ²⁶ 'I have no delight in thee ;' behold, *here am I*, let him do to me as seemeth good unto him." The king said also unto ²⁷ Zadok the priest, "Seest thou ? return into the city in peace, and Ahimaaz thy son, and Jonathan the son of Abiathar, your two sons, with you. See, I will linger in the ²⁸ plains of the wilderness, until there come word from you to inform me." Zadok therefore and Abiathar carried the ark ²⁹ of God back to Jerusalem, and tarried there.

30 And David went up by the ascent of Olivet, weeping as he went up; and his head was covered, and he went barefoot: and all the people that were with him covered every 31 man his head, and went up, weeping as they went up. And one told David, saying, "Ahithophel is among the conspirators with Absalom." And David said, "O Jehovah, I pray thee, turn the counsel of Ahithophel into foolishness."

32 And it came to pass, that when David was come to the top, where he worshipped God, behold, Hushai the Archite 33 met him with his coat rent, and earth upon his head: unto whom David said, "If thou passest on with me, then thou 34 shalt be a burden unto me; but if thou return to the city, and say unto Absalom, 'I will be thy servant, O king; as I have been thy father's servant hitherto, so will I now also be thy servant:' then mayest thou defeat for me the counsel of 35 Ahithophel. And hast thou not there with thee Zadok and Abiathar the priests? therefore it shall be, that every thing that thou shalt hear out of the king's house, thou shalt tell 36 it to Zadok and Abiathar the priests. Behold, they have there with them their two sons, Ahimaaz Zadok's son, and Jonathan Abiathar's son; and by them ye shall send unto 37 me every thing that ye can hear." So Hushai David's friend came into the city, and Absalom came into Jerusalem.

1 CHAP. XVI.—And when David was a little past the top of Olivet, behold, Ziba the servant of Mephibosheth met him, with a couple of asses saddled, and upon them two hundred loaves of bread, and a hundred bunches of raisins, and a 2 hundred fig-cakes, and a skin of wine. And the king said unto Ziba, "What meanest thou by these?" And Ziba said, "The asses are for the king's household to ride on; and the bread and fig-cakes for the young men to eat; and the wine 3 for such as are faint in the wilderness to drink." And the king said, "And where is thy master's son?" And Ziba said unto the king, "Behold, he abideth in Jerusalem; for he said, 'To day shall the house of Israel restore me the 4 kingdom of my father.'" Then said the king to Ziba, "Behold, thine are all that belonged to Mephibosheth." And Ziba said, "I humbly beseech thee that I may find favour in thy sight, my lord, O king."

5 And when king David came to Bahurim, behold, thence came out a man of the family of the house of Saul, whose name was Shimei, the son of Gera: he came forth, and cursed

as he came. And he cast stones at David, and at all the 6 servants of king David: and all the people and all the mighty men were on his right hand and on his left. And 7 thus said Shimei when he cursed, “ Go forth, go forth, thou man of blood, and thou man of Belial; Jehovah hath re- 8 turned upon thee all the blood of the house of Saul, in whose stead thou hast reigned; and Jehovah hath given the kingdom into the hand of Absalom thy son: and, behold, thou art in thy misfortune because thou art a man of blood.”

Then said Abishai the son of Zeruiah unto the king, 9 “ Why should this dead dog curse my lord the king? let me go over, I pray thee, and take off his head.” And the king 10 said, “ What have I to do with you, ye sons of Zeruiah? so let him curse, because Jehovah hath said unto him, ‘ Curse David:’ who then shall say, ‘ Wherefore hast thou done so?’ ” And David said to Abishai, and to all his servants, “ Behold, 11 my son, which came forth of my bowels, seeketh my life; how much more now a Benjamite! let him alone, and let him curse; for Jehovah hath bidden him. It may be that 12 Jehovah will look on mine affliction, and that Jehovah will requite me good for his cursing this day.” And as David 13 and his men went by the way, Shimei went along on the hill’s side over against him, and cursed as he went, and threw stones at him, and cast dust. And the king, and all the 14 people that were with him, came weary, and refreshed themselves there.

And Absalom, and all the people the men of Israel, came 15 to Jerusalem, and Ahithophel with him. And it came to 16 pass, when Hushai the Archite, David’s friend, was come unto Absalom, that Hushai said unto Absalom, “ Long live the king, Long live the king.” And Absalom said to 17 Hushai, “ Is this thy kindness to thy friend? why wentest thou not with thy friend?” And Hushai said unto Ab- 18 salom, “ Nay; but whom Jehovah, and this people, and all the men of Israel, choose, his will I be, and with him will I abide. And again, whom should I serve? *should I not 19 serve* in the presence of his son? as I have served in thy father’s presence, so will I be in thy presence.”

Then said Absalom to Ahithophel, “ Give counsel among 20 you what we shall do.” And Ahithophel said unto Absalom, 21 “ Go in unto thy father’s concubines, whom he hath left to keep the house; and all Israel shall hear that thou art ab-

horred by thy father ; then shall the hands of all that are
22 with thee be strong." So they spread Absalom a tent upon
the top of the house ; and Absalom went in unto his father's
23 concubines in the sight of all Israel. And the counsel of
Ahithophel, which he counselled in those days, was as if a
man had enquired at the oracle of God : so was all the
counsel of Ahithophel both with David and with Absalom.

1 CHAP. XVII.—Moreover Ahithophel said unto Absalom,
"Let me now choose out twelve thousand men, and I will
2 arise and pursue after David this night : and I will come upon
him while he is weary and weak-handed, and will make him
afraid : and all the people that are with him shall flee ; and
3 I will smite the king only : and I will bring back all the
people unto thee : the man whom thou seekest is as if all re-
4 turned ; so all the people shall be in peace." And the saying
5 pleased Absalom well, and all the elders of Israel. Then
said Absalom, "Call now Hushai the Archite also, and let us
hear likewise what he saith."
6 And when Hushai was come to Absalom, Absalom spake
unto him, saying, "Ahithophel hath spoken after this man-
ner : shall we do *after* his saying ? if not, speak thou."
7 And Hushai said unto Absalom, "The counsel that Ahis-
thophel hath given is not good at this time." And Hushai
said, "Thou knowest thy father and his men, that they are
mighty men, and they are fierce, as a bear robbed of her
whelps in the field ; and thy father is a man of war, and will
9 not lodge with the people. Behold, he is hid now in some
pit, or in some *other* place : and it will come to pass, when
some of them fall at the first, that whosoever heareth it will
say, 'There is a slaughter among the people that follow Ab-
10 salom.' And he also that is valiant, whose heart is as the
heart of a lion, shall utterly melt ; for all Israel knoweth
that thy father is a mighty man, and they which are with him
11 are valiant men. But I counsel that all Israel be gathered
together unto thee, from Dan even to Beer-sheba, as the
sand that is by the sea for multitude ; and that thou go to
12 battle in thine own person. So shall we come upon him in
some place where he shall be found, and we will light upon
him as the dew falleth on the ground ; and of him and of
all the men that are with him there shall not be left so much
13 as one. Moreover, if he be withdrawn into a city, then
shall all Israel bring ropes to that city, and we will drag it

into the river, until there be not one small stone found there."

And Absalom and all the men of Israel said, "The ¹⁴ counsel of Hushai the Archite is better than the counsel of Ahithophel." For Jehovah had appointed to defeat the good counsel of Ahithophel, to the intent that Jehovah might bring evil upon Absalom.

Then said Hushai unto Zadok and to Abiathar the priests, ¹⁵ "Thus and thus did Ahithophel counsel Absalom and the elders of Israel; and thus and thus have I counselled. Now therefore send quickly, and tell David, saying, 'Lodge not this night in the plains of the wilderness, but pass over; lest the king be destroyed, and all the people that are with him.'"

Now Jonathan and Ahimaaz stayed by En-rogel; and the ¹⁷ damsel went and told them; and they went and told king David: for they might not be seen to come into the city: but a lad saw them, and told Absalom; but they went both ¹⁸ of them away quickly, and came to a man's house in Bahurim; and he had a well in his court, into which they went down. And the woman took and laid the cover over ¹⁹ the mouth of the well, and spread ground corn thereon; and the thing was not known. And when Absalom's servants ²⁰ came to the woman to the house, they said, "Where is Ahimaaz and Jonathan?" And the woman said unto them, "They are gone over the brook of water." And when they had sought and could not find them, they returned to Jerusalem. And it came to pass, after they were departed, that ²¹ they came up out of the well, and went and told king David, and said unto David, "Arise, and pass quickly over the water; for thus hath Ahithophel counselled against you." Then David arose, and all the people that were with him, and ²² they passed over the Jordan; by the morning light there lacked not one of them that was not gone over the Jordan.

And when Ahithophel saw that his counsel was not followed, he saddled his ass, and arose, and went home to his city, and put his household in order, and hanged himself, and died, and was buried in the sepulchre of his father.

Then David came to Mahanaim. And Absalom passed ²⁴ over the Jordan, he and all the men of Israel with him. And ²⁵ Absalom made Amasa captain of the host instead of Joab; and Amasa was the son of a man whose name was Ithra the Israelite, that went in to Abigail, the daughter of Nahash,

26 sister to Zeruiah Joab's mother. So Israel and Absalom encamped in the land of Gilead.

27 And it came to pass, when David was come to Mahanaim, that Shobi the son of Nahash of Rabbah of the children of Ammon, and Machir the son of Ammiel of Lo-debar, and 28 Barzillai the Gileadite of Rogelim, brought beds, and basins, and earthen vessels, and wheat, and barley, and flour, and 29 parched *corn*, and beans, and lentiles, and parched *pulse*, and honey, and curdled milk, and sheep, and cheese of kine, for David, and for the people that were with him, to eat ; for they said, "The people are hungry, and weary, and thirsty, in the wilderness."

1 CHAP. XVIII.—And David mustered the people that were with him, and set captains of thousands and captains of hundreds over them. And David sent forth a third part of the people under the hand of Joab, and a third part under the hand of Abishai the son of Zeruiah, Joab's brother, and a third part under the hand of Ittai the Gittite. And the king said unto 3 the people, "I will go forth with you myself also." But the people answered, "Thou shalt not go forth ; for if we flee away, they will not care for us ; neither if half of us die, will they care for us : but thou art as ten thousand of us ; therefore now it is better that thou succour us out of the 4 city." And the king said unto them, "What seemeth to you best I will do." And the king stood by the gate side, and all the people came out by hundreds and by thousands.

5 And the king charged Joab and Abishai and Ittai, saying, "Gently for my sake with the young man, with Absalom." And all the people heard when the king gave all the captains charge concerning Absalom.

6 So the people went out into the field against Israel : and 7 the battle was in the wood of Ephraim. And the people of Israel were slain there before the servants of David, and there was there a great slaughter that day of twenty thousand 8 men. For the battle was there scattered over the face of all the country ; and the wood devoured more people that day than the sword devoured.

9 And Absalom met the servants of David. And Absalom rode upon a mule, and the mule went under the thick boughs of a great oak, and his head caught in the oak, and he was taken up between the heaven and the earth ; and the 10 mule that was under him passed on. And a certain man

saw it, and told Joab, and said, "Behold, I saw Absalom hanged in an oak." And Joab said unto the man that told him, "And, behold, thou sawest him, and why didst thou not smite him there to the ground? and I would have given thee ten shekels of silver, and a girdle." And the man said unto Joab, "Though I should receive a thousand shekels of silver in my hand, yet would I not put forth my hand against the king's son; for in our hearing the king charged thee and Abishai and Ittai, saying, 'Take care, every one, of the young man Absalom.' But if I had wrought falsehood against mine own life, there is no matter hid from the king, and thou thyself wouldest have set thyself against me." Then said Joab, "I may not tarry thus with thee." And he took three darts in his hand, and thrust them through the heart of Absalom, while he was yet alive in the midst of the oak. And ten young men that bare Joab's armour turned and smote Absalom, and slew him.

And Joab blew the trumpet, and the people returned from pursuing after Israel; for Joab held back the people. And they took Absalom, and cast him into the great pit in the wood, and laid a very great heap of stones upon him; and all Israel fled every one to his tent.

Now Absalom in his lifetime had taken and set up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's dale; for he said, "I have no son to keep my name in remembrance;" and he called the pillar after his own name: and it is called unto this day Absalom's monument.

Then said Ahimaaz the son of Zadok, "Let me now run, and bear the king tidings, how that Jehovah hath avenged him of his enemies." And Joab said unto him, "Thou shalt not be a bearer of tidings this day, but thou shalt bear tidings another day; but this day thou shalt not bear tidings, because the king's son is dead." Then said Joab to Cushi, "Go tell the king what thou hast seen." And Cushi bowed himself to Joab, and ran. Then said Ahimaaz the son of Zadok yet again to Joab, "But howsoever, let me, I pray thee, also run after Cushi." And Joab said, "Wherefore wilt thou run, my son, seeing that thou hast no acceptable tidings?" "But howsoever," he said, "let me run." And he said unto him, "Run." Then Ahimaaz ran by the way of the plain, and overran Cushi.

Now David was sitting between the two gates; and the watchman went up to the roof over the gate unto the wall,

and lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold a man running alone. And the watchman cried, and told the king. And the king said, "If he be alone there is tidings in his mouth." And he came on and drew near. And the watchman saw another man running; and the watchman called unto the porter, and said, "Behold *another* man running alone." And the king said, "He also bringeth tidings." 27 And the watchman said, "Methinketh the running of the foremost is like the running of Ahimaaz the son of Zadok." And the king said, "He is a good man, and cometh with good tidings." 28 And Ahimaaz called, and said unto the king, "All is well." And he bowed down to the earth upon his face before the king, and said, "Blessed be Jehovah thy God, which hath delivered up the men that lifted up their hand 29 against my lord the king." And the king said, "Is the young man Absalom safe?" And Ahimaaz answered, "When Joab sent the king's servant, and *me* thy servant, I 30 saw a great tumult, but I knew not what it was." And the king said unto him, "Turn aside, and stand here." And he 31 turned aside, and stood. And, behold, Cushi came; and Cushi said, "Tidings, my lord the king; for Jehovah hath avenged thee this day of all them that rose up against thee." 32 And the king said unto Cushi, "Is the young man Absalom safe?" And Cushi answered, "The enemies of my lord the king, and all that rise against thee to do thee hurt, be as that 33 young man is." And the king was much moved and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept: and as he went, thus he said, "O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! would God I had died for thee, O Absalom, my son, my son!"

- 1 CHAP. XIX.—And it was told Joab, "Behold, the king 2 weepeth and mourneth for Absalom." And the victory that day was *turned* into mourning unto all the people; for the people heard that day how the king was grieved for his son.
- 3 And the people stole away that day and went into the city,
- 4 as people steal away ashamed when they flee in battle. But the king covered his face, and the king cried with a loud voice, "O my son Absalom, O Absalom, my son, my son!"
- 5 And Joab came into the house to the king, and said, "Thou hast shamed this day the faces of all thy servants, which this day have saved thy life, and the lives of thy sons

and of thy daughters, and the lives of thy wives, and the lives of thy concubines; in that thou lovest those who hate thee, and hatest those who love thee. For thou hast declared this day that thou regardest neither captains nor servants; for this day I perceive, that if Absalom had lived, and all we had died this day, then it had been right in thine eyes. Now therefore arise, go forth, and speak kindly unto thy servants; for I swear by Jehovah, if thou go not forth, there will not tarry one with thee this night; and that will be worse unto thee than all the evil that hath befallen thee from thy youth until now." Then the king arose, and sat in the gate. And they told unto all the people, saying, "Behold, the king is sitting in the gate." And all the people came before the king; for Israel had fled every man to his tent.

And all the people were at strife throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, "The king saved us out of the hand of our enemies, and he delivered us out of the hand of the Philistines; and now he is fled out of the land on account of Absalom. And Absalom, whom we anointed over us, is dead in battle. Now therefore why speak ye not a word of bringing the king back?"

And king David sent to Zadok and to Abiathar the priests, saying, "Speak unto the elders of Judah, saying, 'Why are ye the last to bring the king back to his house? seeing the speech of all Israel is come to the king, to his house. Ye are my brethren, ye are my bone and my flesh; wherefore then are ye the last to bring back the king?' And say ye to Amasa, 'Art thou not my bone, and my flesh? God do so to me, and more also, if thou be not captain of the host before me continually in the room of Joab.'" And he swayed the heart of all the men of Judah, even as one man; so that they sent unto the king, saying, "Return thou, and all thy servants." So the king returned, and came to the Jordan. And Judah came to Gilgal, to go to meet the king, to conduct the king over the Jordan.

And Shimei the son of Gera, the Benjamite, who was of Bahurim, hasted and came down with the men of Judah to meet king David. And there were a thousand men of Benjamin with him, and Ziba the servant of the house of Saul, and his fifteen sons, and his twenty servants with him; and they went through the Jordan before the king. And the ferry-boat went over to carry over the king's household, and to do as he thought good. And Shimei the son of Gera fell

down before the king, when he was come over the Jordan ;
19 and said unto the king, "Let not my lord impute iniquity unto me, neither do thou remember that which thy servant did wickedly the day that my lord the king went out of
20 Jerusalem, so that the king should give heed to it. For thy servant doth know that I have sinned ; therefore, behold, I am come the first this day of all the house of Joseph to go
21 down to meet my lord the king." But Abishai the son of Zeruiah answered and said, "Shall not Shimei be put to death for this, because he cursed the anointed of Jehovah ?"
22 And David said, "What have I to do with you, ye sons of Zeruiah, that ye should this day be adversaries unto me ? shall there any man be put to death this day in Israel ? for do not
23 I know that I am this day king over Israel ?" Therefore the king said unto Shimei, "Thou shalt not die :" and the king sware unto him.
24 And Mephibosheth the son of Saul came down to meet the king, and had neither dressed his feet, nor trimmed his beard, nor washed his clothes, from the day the king departed
25 until the day he came *again* in safety. And it came to pass when he was come to Jerusalem to meet the king, that the king said unto him, "Wherefore wentest not thou with me,
26 Mephibosheth ?" And he answered, "My lord, O king, my servant deceived me ; for thy servant said, I will saddle my ass, that I may ride thereon, and go to the king ; because
27 thy servant is lame. And he hath slandered thy servant unto my lord the king : but my lord the king is as an angel
28 of God ; do therefore what is good in thine eyes. For all of my father's house were but dead men before my lord the king ; yet didst thou set thy servant among them that did eat at thine own table. What right therefore have I yet to com-
29 plain any more unto the king ?" And the king said unto him, "Why speakest thou any more of thy matters ? I have said,
30 Thou and Ziba divide the land." And Mephibosheth said unto the king, "Yea, let him take all, forasmuch as my lord the king is come again in peace unto his own house."
31 And Barzillai the Gileadite came down from Rogelim, and went over the Jordan with the king, to conduct him over the
32 Jordan. Now Barzillai was a very aged man, *even* fourscore years old : and he had provided sustenance for the king while he lay at Mahanaim ; for he was a very great man.
33 And the king said unto Barzillai, "Come thou over with me,
34 and I will provide for thee with me in Jerusalem." And

Barzillai said unto the king, "How long have I to live, that I should go up with the king to Jerusalem? I am this ³³ day fourscore years old: can I discern between good and evil? can thy servant taste what I eat or what I drink? can I hear any more the voice of singing men and singing women? wherefore then should thy servant be yet a burden unto my lord the king? Thy servant will go a little way over ³⁶ the Jordan with the king: and why should the king reward me with such a reward? Let thy servant, I pray thee, ³⁷ turn back again, that I may die in mine own city, near the grave of my father and of my mother. But behold thy servant Chimham shall go over with my lord the king; and do to him what shall seem good unto thee." And the ³⁸ king answered, "Chimham shall go over with me, and I will do to him what shall seem good unto thee; and whatsoever thou shalt desire of me, that will I do for thee." And all the ³⁹ people went over the Jordan. And when the king had gone over, the king kissed Barzillai, and blessed him; and he returned unto his own place. Then the king went on to Gil-⁴⁰ gal, and Chimham went on with him: and all the people of Judah conducted the king, and also half the people of Israel.

And, behold, all the men of Israel came to the king, and said ⁴¹ unto the king, "Why have our brethren the men of Judah stolen thee away, and brought the king, and his household, and all David's men with him, over the Jordan?" And all ⁴² the men of Judah answered the men of Israel, "Because the king is near of kin to us; wherefore then are ye angry for this matter? have we eaten at all of the king's *cost*? or hath he given us any gift?" And the men of Israel an-⁴³ swered the men of Judah, and said, "We have ten parts in the king, and we have also more *right* in David than ye; why then have ye despised us? and was not our advice the first to bring back our king?" And the words of the men of Judah were fiercer than the words of the men of Israel.

CHAP. XX.—And there happened to be there a man of ¹ Belial, whose name was Sheba, the son of Bichri, a Benjamite; and he blew a trumpet, and said, "We have no part in David, neither have we inheritance in the son of Jesse; every man to his tents, O Israel." So every man of Israel ² went up from after David, and followed Sheba the son of Bichri; but the men of Judah clave unto their king, from the Jordan even to Jerusalem.

3 And David came to his house at Jerusalem ; and the king took the ten women his concubines, whom he had left to keep the house, and put them in ward, and supported them, but went not in unto them. So they were secluded unto the day of their death, living in widowhood.

4 Then said the king to Amasa, " Assemble me the men of 5 Judah within three days, and be thou here present." So Amasa went to assemble Judah ; but he delayed longer than 6 the set time which he had appointed him. And David said to Abishai, " Now shall Sheba the son of Bichri do us more harm than Absalom ; take thou thy lord's servants, and pursue after him, lest he get him fenced cities, and escape 7 us." And there went out after him Joab's men, and the lictors, and the harbingers, and all the mighty men : and they went out of Jerusalem, to pursue after Sheba the son of Bichri.

8 When they were at the great stone which is in Gibeon, Amasa came before them. And Joab's garment that he had put on was girded unto him, and upon it a girdle *with a sword fastened upon his loins in the sheath thereof* ; and as 9 he went forth it fell out. And Joab said to Amasa, " Is it well with thee, my brother ?" And Joab took Amasa by 10 the beard with the right hand to kiss him. But Amasa observed not the sword that was in Joab's hand ; so he smote him therewith in the belly, and shed out his bowels to the ground, and struck him not again ; and he died. So Joab and Abishai his brother pursued after Sheba the son of 11 Bichri. And one of Joab's men stood by him, and said, " He that favoureth Joab, and he that is for David, let him go 12 after Joab." And Amasa was weltering in his blood in the midst of the highway. And when the man saw that all people stood still, he removed Amasa out of the highway into the field, and cast a covering over him, when he saw that 13 every one that came by him stood still. When he was removed out of the highway, all the people went on after Joab, to pursue after Sheba the son of Bichri.

14 And he went through all the tribes of Israel unto Abel, and to Beth-maachah, and all the Berites ; and they were 15 gathered together, and went also after him. And they came and besieged him in Abel of Beth-maachah, and they cast up a siege-mound against the city, and it stood by the rampart ; and all the people that were with Joab battered the wall, to throw it down.

Then cried a wise woman out of the city, “Hear, hear ; 16 say, I pray you, unto Joab, ‘Come near hither, that I may speak with thee.’” And when he was come near unto her, 17 the woman said, “Art thou Joab ?” And he answered, “I am he.” Then she said unto him, “Hear the words of thy handmaid.” And he answered, “I do hear.” Then she 18 spake, saying, “They should first have spoken, saying, ‘They shall surely ask at Abel :’ and so they had ended *the matter*. I am *one of* the peaceable and faithful in Israel : thou seek- 19 est to destroy a city and a mother in Israel ; why wilt thou swallow up the inheritance of Jehovah ?”

And Joab answered and said, “Far be it, far be it from 20 me, that I should swallow up or destroy. The matter is not 21 so ; but a man of mount Ephraim, Sheba the son of Bichri by name, hath lifted up his hand against the king, *even* against David ; deliver him only, and I will depart from the city.” And the woman said unto Joab, “Behold, his head shall be thrown to thee over the wall.”

Then the woman went unto all the people in her wisdom ; 22 and they cut off the head of Sheba the son of Bichri, and cast it out to Joab. And he blew a trumpet, and they retired from the city, every man to his tent. And Joab returned to Jerusalem unto the king.

Now Joab was over all the host of Israel ; and Benaiah the 23 son of Jehoiada was over the lictors, and over the har- bingers ; and Adoram was over the tribute-service ; and Je- 24 hoshaphat the son of Ahilud was the recorder ; and Sheva 25 was scribe ; and Zadok and Abiathar priests : and Ira also 26 the Jairite was a priest to David.

CHAP. XXI.—Then there was a famine in the days of 1 David three years, year after year ; and David sought the face of Jehovah. And Jehovah said, “It is for Saul, and for *his* house of blood, because he slew the Gibeonites.” And 2 the king called the Gibeonites, and said unto them ; (now the Gibeonites were not of the children of Israel, but of the remnant of the Amorites ; and the children of Israel had sworn unto them : but Saul sought to slay them in his zeal for the children of Israel and Judah.)

And David said unto the Gibeonites, “What shall I do for 3 you ? and wherewith shall I make atonement, that ye may bless the inheritance of Jehovah ?” And the Gibeonites 4 said unto him, “We will have no silver nor gold of Saul, nor

of his house; neither for us shalt thou kill any man in Israel." And he said, "What ye shall say, that will I do for you." And they answered the king, "The man that consumed us, and that devised against us that we should be destroyed from remaining in any of the territory of Israel, let seven men of his sons be given unto us, and we will hang them up unto Jehovah in Gibeah of Saul, the chosen of Jehovah." And the king said, "I will give them."

7 But the king spared Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan the son of Saul, because of the oath of Jehovah that was between them, between David and Jonathan the son of Saul.
8 But the king took the two sons of Rizpah the daughter of Aiah, whom she bare unto Saul, Armoni and Mephibosheth; and the five sons of Michal the daughter of Saul, whom she bare to Adriel the son of Barzillai the Meholathite; and he delivered them into the hands of the Gibeonites, and they hanged them in the hill before Jehovah: and the seven fell together, and were put to death in the first days of 10 harvest, in the beginning of barley harvest. And Rizpah the daughter of Aiah took sackcloth, and spread it for her upon the rock, from the beginning of harvest until water dropped upon them out of heaven, and suffered neither the birds of the air to rest on them by day, nor the beasts of the field by night.

11 And it was told David what Rizpah the daughter of Aiah, 12 the concubine of Saul, had done. And David went and took the bones of Saul and the bones of Jonathan his son from the men of Jabesh-gilead, who had stolen them from the open space of Beth-shan, where the Philistines had hanged 13 them, when the Philistines had slain Saul on Gilboa: and he brought up from thence the bones of Saul and the bones of Jonathan his son; and they gathered the bones of them that 14 were hanged. And the bones of Saul and Jonathan his son they buried in the country of Benjamin in Zelah, in the sepulchre of Kish his father; and they did all that the king commanded. And after that God was intreated for the land.

15 And the Philistines had war yet again with Israel; and David went down, and his servants with him, and fought 16 with the Philistines: now David had grown feeble; and Ishbi-benob, who was of the sons of Rapha, and the weight of whose spear was three hundred shekels of brass in weight, he was girded with a new *sword*, and he thought to have 17 slain David. But Abishai the son of Zeruiah succoured

him, and smote the Philistine, and killed him. Then the men of David sware unto him, saying, "Thou shalt go no more out with us to battle, that thou quench not the lamp of Israel."

And it came to pass after this, that there was again a battle with the Philistines at Gob; then Sibbechai the Hushathite slew Saph, who was of the sons of Rapha. And there was again a battle in Gob with the Philistines, where Elhanan the son of Jaare-oregim, the Bethlehemite, slew Goliath the Gittite, the staff of whose spear was like a weaver's beam. And there was again a battle in Gath, where was a man of great stature, that had on each hand six fingers, and on each foot six toes, four and twenty in number; and he also was born to Rapha. And he defied Israel, and Jonathan the son of Shimeah the brother of David slew him. These four were born to Rapha in Gath, and fell by the hand of David, and by the hand of his servants.

CHAP. XXII.—And David spake unto Jehovah the words of this song, in the day that Jehovah delivered him out of the hand of all his enemies, and out of the hand of Saul: and he said,

"Jehovah is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer;
My God, my rock, in him will I trust:
My shield, and the horn of my salvation,
My high tower, and my refuge,
My saviour, thou savest me from violence.

I will call on Jehovah, who is worthy to be praised;
So shall I be saved from mine enemies.
For the waves of death encompassed me,
Torrents of destruction made me afraid;
The toils of the grave surrounded me,
The snares of death surprised me.

In my distress I called upon Jehovah, and cried to my God,
And he heard my voice out of his temple,
And my cry entered into his ears.

Then the earth shook and trembled;
The foundations of the heavens moved and shook, because
he was wroth.

There went up a smoke out of his nostrils,
And fire out of his mouth devoured; coals were kindled
by it.

He bowed the heavens also, and came down;

- And darkness was under his feet.
 11 And he rode upon a cherub, and did fly ;
 And moved swiftly upon the wings of the wind.
 12 And he made darkness *his* pavilion round about him,
 The gathered waters, and thick clouds of the skies.
 13 Through the brightness before him coals of fire were
 kindled.
 14 Jehovah thundered from heaven,
 And the most High uttered his voice.
 15 And he sent out arrows, and scattered them ;
 Lightning, and discomfited them.
 16 And the channels of the sea appeared,
 The foundations of the world were laid bare,
 At the rebuking of Jehovah, at the blast of the breath
 of his nostrils.
 17 He stretched forth *his hand* from above, he took me.
 He drew me out of many waters,
 18 He delivered me from my strong enemy, from them that
 hated me ;
 For they were too powerful for me.
 19 They surprised me in the day of my calamity ;
 But Jehovah was my stay.
 20 He brought me forth also into a wide place ;
 He delivered me, because he delighted in me.
 21 Jehovah rewarded me according to my righteousness ;
 According to the cleanness of my hands hath he recom-
 pensed me.
 22 For I have kept the ways of Jehovah,
 And have not wickedly departed from my God.
 23 For all his judgments were before me ;
 And *as for* his statutes, I did not depart from them.
 24 But I was upright before him,
 And kept myself from mine iniquity.
 25 Therefore hath Jehovah recompensed me according to
 my righteousness,
 According to my cleanness in his sight.
 26 With the merciful thou wilt show thyself merciful ;
 With the upright man thou wilt show thyself upright.
 27 With the pure thou wilt show thyself pure ;
 And with the froward thou wilt show thyself perverse.
 28 And the afflicted people thou wilt save ;
 But thine eyes are against the haughty, that thou mayest
 bring them down.

- For thou art my lamp, O Jehovah ; 29
 And Jehovah will lighten my darkness.
 For by thee I have rushed against troops ; 30
 By my God have I leaped over walls.
As for God, his way is perfect ; 31
 The word of Jehovah is pure ;
 He is a shield to all them that trust in him.
 For who is God, save Jehovah ? 32
 And who is a rock, save our God ?
 God is my stronghold *and* strength ; 33
 And he sheweth the perfect his way.
 He maketh my feet like hinds' feet ; 34
 And setteth me upon my high places.
 He instructeth my hands for war ; 35
 So that my arms can bend a bow of brass.
 Thou hast also given me the shield of thy salvation ; 36
 And thy kindness hath made me great.
 Thou hast enlarged my steps under me ; 37
 So that my feet did not slip.
 I have pursued mine enemies, and destroyed them ; 38
 And turned not back until I had consumed them.
 And I have consumed them, and wounded them, that 39
 they could not arise ;
 Yea, they are fallen under my feet.
 For thou hast girded me with strength for war ; 40
 Them that rose up against me thou hast subdued under
 me.
 Thou hast also given me the necks of mine enemies, 41
 That I might destroy them that hate me.
 They cried, but there was none to save ; 42
Even unto Jehovah, but he answered them not.
 Then did I beat them small as the dust of the earth, 43
 I crushed them as the mire of the street, I trampled
 them down.
 Thou also hast delivered me from the strivings of my 44
 people,
 Thou hast preserved me to be head of the nations :
 A people which I knew not serve me,
 Sons of the stranger court me, 45
 As soon as they hear, they are obedient to me.
 Sons of the stranger fade away, 46
 And come forth trembling out of their strong places.
 Jehovah liveth ; and blessed be my rock ; 47

And exalted be my God, the rock of my salvation ;
 48 The God that avengeth me,
 And that casteth down the people under me,
 49 And that bringeth me forth from mine enemies :
 Thou also hast lifted me up above them that rose up
 against me ;
 Thou hast delivered me from the violent man.
 50 Therefore I will give thanks unto thee, O Jehovah, among
 the nations,
 And I will sing praises unto thy name.
 51 He worketh great salvation for his king ;
 And sheweth mercy to his anointed,
 Unto David, and to his seed for ever.”

- 1 CHAP. XXIII.—Now these are the last words of David,
 Uttered by the son of Jesse,
 Uttered by the man who was raised high,
 The anointed of the God of Jacob,
 And the sweet Psalmist of Israel :—
- 2 “The spirit of Jehovah speaketh by me,
 And his word is on my tongue ;
 3 The God of Israel hath said,
 The rock of Israel hath spoken to me—
 ‘He that ruleth over men justly,
 Ruling in the fear of God,
 4 Shall be as the light of the morning,
 When the sun riseth *in* a morning without clouds ;
 As the tender grass *springing* out of the earth, from sun-
 shine after rain.’
- 5 For is not my house thus, with God ?
 For he hath made an everlasting covenant with me,
 Well-ordered in all things, and assured ;
 For will he not promote all my salvation and desire ?
- 6 But the ungodly shall be all of them as thorns cast away,
 Because they cannot be taken with the hand ;
 7 But the man that shall touch them must be armed with
 iron and the shaft of the spear,
 And they shall be utterly burned with fire in *their*
 place.”
- 8 These are the names of the mighty men whom David
 had : Jashobeam the Tachmonite, head of the chariot war-
 riors ; the same lifted up his spear against eight hundred

slain at one time. And after him was Eleazar the son of Dodo the son of Ahohi, *one* of the three mighty men with David, when they defied the Philistines there gathered together to battle, and the men of Israel were gone away: he arose, and smote the Philistines until his hand was weary, and his hand clave unto the sword; and Jehovah wrought a great victory that day; and the people returned after him only to spoil.

And after him was Shammah the son of Agee the Hararite. And the Philistines were gathered together into a band, where was a piece of ground full of lentiles; and the people fled from the Philistines. But he stood in the midst of the ground, and defended it, and slew the Philistines; and Jehovah wrought a great victory.

And three of the thirty chiefs went down, and came to David in the harvest time unto the cave of Adullam; and a band of the Philistines was encamped in the valley of Rephaim. And David was then in the fastness, and there was a garrison of the Philistines then in Beth-lehem. And David longed, and said, "Who will give me to drink of the water of the well of Beth-lehem, which is by the gate?" And the three mighty men brake through the camp of the Philistines, and drew water out of the well of Beth-lehem, that was by the gate, and took it, and brought it to David; and he would not drink thereof, but poured it out unto Jehovah. And he said, "Be it far from me, O Jehovah, that I should do this: *is not this* the blood of the men that went in jeopardy of their lives?" therefore he would not drink it. These things did the three mighty men.

And Abishai, the brother of Joab, the son of Zeruiah, was chief of three *others*. And he lifted up his spear against three hundred slain, and had the name among the three. He was the most honoured of the three, therefore he was their captain; howbeit he attained not unto the *first* three.

And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, the son of a valiant man, of Kabzeel, who had done many acts, he slew two champions of Moab: he went down also and slew a lion in the midst of a pit in time of snow: and he slew an Egyptian, a goodly man; and the Egyptian had a spear in his hand; but he went down to him with a staff, and plucked the spear out of the Egyptian's hand, and slew him with his own spear.

These things did Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and had a

23 name among three mighty men. He was more honourable than the thirty, but he attained not to the *first* three. And David made him one of his council.

24 Asahel the brother of Joab was one of the thirty; El-
 25 hanan the son of Dodo of Beth-lehem, Shammah the Haro-
 26 dite, Elika the Harodite, Helez the Paltite, Ira the son of
 27 Ikkesh the Tekoite, Abiezer the Anethothite, Mebunnai the
 28 Hushathite, Zalmon the Ahohite, Mahari the Netophathite,
 29 Heleb the son of Baanah, a Netophathite, Ittai the son of
 30 Ribai out of Gibeah of the children of Benjamin, Benaiah
 31 the Pirathonite, Hiddai of Nachale-Gaash, Abi-albon the Ar-
 32 bathite, Azmaveth the Barhumite, Eliahba the Shaalbonite, of
 33 the sons of Jashen, Jonathan, Shammah the Hararite, Ahiam
 34 the son of Sharar the Hararite, Eliphelaet the son of Ahasbai,
 the son of the Maachathite, Eliam the son of Ahithophel the
 35 Gilonite, Hezrai the Carmelite, Paarai the Arbite, Igal the
 36 son of Nathan of Zobah, Bani the Gadite, Zelek the Ammo-
 nite, Nahari the Beerothite, armour-bearer to Joab the son of
 37 Zeruiah, Ira an Ithrite, Gareb an Ithrite, Uriah the Hittite,
 thirty and seven in all.

1 CHAP. XXIV.—And again the anger of Jehovah was kindled against Israel, and he moved David against them to
 2 say, “Go, number Israel and Judah.” And the king said to Joab the captain of the host, who was with him, “Go now through all the tribes of Israel, from Dan even to Beer-sheba, and number ye the people, that I may know the number of the
 3 people.” And Joab said unto the king, “Now Jehovah thy God add unto the people, how many soever they be, an hundredfold, and may the eyes of my lord the king see it; but
 4 why doth my lord the king desire this thing?” Notwithstanding the king’s word prevailed against Joab, and against the captains of the host.

And Joab and the captains of the host went out from the
 5 presence of the king, to number the people of Israel. And they passed over Jordan, and encamped in Aroer, on the right side of the city that lieth in the midst of the torrent of Gad
 6 and towards Jazer: then they came to Gilead, and to the land of Tahtim-hodshi; and they came to Dan-jaan, and
 7 round to Sidon, and came to the fortified place of Tyre, and to all the cities of the Hivites, and of the Canaanites; and
 8 they went out to the south of Judah, *even* to Beer-sheba. So when they had gone through all the land, they came to Jeru-

salem at the end of nine months and twenty days. And 9 Joab gave up the sum of the number of the people unto the king; and there were in Israel eight hundred thousand valiant men that drew the sword; and the men of Judah were five hundred thousand men.

And David's heart smote him after that he had numbered 10 the people. And David said unto Jehovah, "I have sinned greatly in that I have done: and now, I beseech thee, O Jehovah, take away the iniquity of thy servant; for I have done very foolishly." And when David arose in the morning, the 11 word of Jehovah came unto the prophet Gad, David's seer, saying, "Go and say unto David, 'Thus saith Jehovah, I 12 offer thee three things; choose thee one of them, that I may do it unto thee.'" So Gad came to David, and told him, and 13 said unto him, "Shall seven years of famine come unto thee in thy land? or wilt thou flee three months before thine enemies, while they pursue thee? or that there be three days of pestilence in thy land? now consider, and see what answer I shall return to him that sent me.'" And David said unto 14 Gad, "I am in great distress: let us fall now into the hand of Jehovah; for his mercies are great; and let me not fall into the hand of man."

So Jehovah sent a pestilence upon Israel from the morning even to the time appointed; and there died of the people from Dan even to Beer-sheba, seventy thousand men. And 15 when the angel stretched out his hand upon Jerusalem to destroy it, Jehovah repented him of the evil, and said to the angel that destroyed the people, "It is enough; stay now thine hand."

And the angel of Jehovah was by the threshing-floor of Araunah the Jebusite. And David spake unto Jehovah 17 when he saw the angel that smote the people, and said, "Lo, I have sinned, and I have done wickedly; but these sheep, what have they done? let thy hand, I pray thee, be upon me, and upon my father's house."

And Gad came that day to David, and said to him, "Go 18 up, rear an altar unto Jehovah in the threshing-floor of Araunah the Jebusite." And David, according to the saying 19 of Gad, went up as Jehovah commanded. And Araunah 20 looked, and saw the king and his servants coming on toward him; and Araunah went out, and bowed himself before the king with his face toward the ground. And Araunah said, 21 "Wherefore is my lord the king come to his servant?" And

David said, "To buy the threshing-floor of thee, to build
an altar to Jehovah, that the plague may be stayed from the
22 people." And Araunah said unto David, "Let my lord the
king take and offer up what seemeth good unto him; behold,
here are oxen for burnt sacrifice, and threshing-machines, and
23 gear of the oxen for wood. All these things doth Araunah,
O king, give unto the king." And Araunah said unto the
24 king, "Jehovah thy God accept thee." And the king said
unto Araunah, "Nay; but I will surely buy it of thee at a
price; neither will I offer burnt offerings unto Jehovah my
God of that which doth cost me nothing."

So David bought the threshing-floor and the oxen for fifty
25 shekels of silver. And David built there an altar unto Je-
hovah, and offered burnt-offerings and peace-offerings. So
Jehovah was intreated for the land, and the plague was stayed
from Israel.

THE
FIRST BOOK OF THE KINGS.

CHAP. I.—Now king David was old and stricken in 1 years; and they covered him with clothes, but he got no heat. And his servants said unto him, “Let a young maiden 2 be sought for my lord the king, and let her stand before the king, and let her be his companion; and let her lie in his bosom, that my lord the king may get heat.” So they 3 sought for a beautiful damsel throughout all the borders of Israel; and they found Abishag a Shunammite, and brought her to the king. And the damsel was very beau- 4 tiful; and she became companion to the king, and ministered unto him; but the king knew her not.

And Adonijah the son of Haggith exalted himself, saying, 5 “I will be king;” and he procured chariots and horsemen, and fifty men to run before him. And his father had not 6 displeased him at any time, saying, “Why hast thou done thus?” And he was also exceeding comely; and his mother had borne him after Absalom. And he took counsel 7 with Joab the son of Zeruiyah, and with Abiathar the priest; and they helped Adonijah. But Zadok the priest, and Be- 8 naiah the son of Jehoiada, and Nathan the prophet, and Shimei, and Rei, and David’s valiant men, were not with Adonijah. And Adonijah slew sheep and oxen and fatlings 9 by the stone of Zoheleth which is by En-rogel; and he invited all his brethren the king’s sons, and all the men of Judah the king’s servants. But Nathan the prophet, and Be- 10 naiah, and the valiant men, and Solomon his brother, he did not invite.

Then spake Nathan unto Bath-sheba the mother of Solo- 11 mon, saying, “Hast thou not heard that Adonijah the son of

Haggith is become king, and David our lord knoweth it not ?
12 Now therefore come ; let me, I pray thee, give thee counsel, that thou mayest save thine own life and the life of thy son
13 Solomon. Go and get thee in unto king David, and say unto him, ‘Didst not thou, my lord, O king, swear unto thy hand-maid, saying, Assuredly Solomon thy son shall reign after me, and he shall sit upon my throne ? Why then is Adonijah become king ?’ *And* behold whilst thou art yet speaking with the king, I also will come in after thee, and will confirm thy words.”

15 And Bath-sheba went in unto the king, into the chamber. Now the king was very old ; and Abishag the Shunammite ministered unto the king. And Bath-sheba bowed down and did obeisance unto the king ; and the king said, “What wouldest thou ?” And she said unto him, “My lord, thou didst swear by Jehovah thy God unto thy handmaid, saying, ‘Assuredly Solomon thy son shall reign after me, and he shall sit upon my throne.’ And now behold Adonijah is become king, and thou, my lord the king, knowest it not.
19 And he hath slain oxen and fatlings and sheep in abundance ; and hath invited all the sons of the king, and Abiathar the priest, and Joab the captain of the host ; but Solomon thy servant he hath not invited. And now my lord, O king, the eyes of all Israel are upon thee, that thou mayest tell them who shall sit upon the throne of my lord the king after him.
21 Else will it come to pass that when my lord the king shall sleep with his fathers, I and my son Solomon shall be accounted offenders.”

22 And behold while she was yet speaking with the king, Nathan the prophet also came. And they told the king, saying, “Behold, Nathan the prophet.” And he came into the presence of the king, and bowed himself before the king with his face to the ground. And Nathan said, “My lord, O king, hast thou said, ‘Adonijah shall be king after me, and he shall sit upon my throne ?’ For he is gone down this day, and hath slain oxen and fatlings and sheep in abundance ; and hath invited all the king’s sons, and the captains of the host, and Abiathar the priest ; and behold they are eating and drinking before him and saying, ‘Long live king Adonijah !’ But me, even me, thy servant, and Zadok the priest, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and thy servant Solomon, he hath not invited. If this thing hath been done by my lord the king, then thou hast not shown unto thy

servant who shall sit upon the throne of my lord the king after him."

Then king David answered and said, "Call unto me Bath-sheba." And she came into the king's presence and stood before the king. And the king did swear and said, "As Jehovah liveth who hath redeemed my soul out of all distress, even as I did swear unto thee by Jehovah the God of Israel, saying, 'Assuredly Solomon thy son shall be king after me, and he shall sit upon my throne in my stead,' even so will I do this day." Then Bath-sheba bowed with her face to the earth, and did obeisance to the king, and said, "May my lord, king David, live for ever!"

And king David said, "Call unto me Zadok the priest, and Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada:" and they came into the presence of the king. And the king said unto them, "Take with you the servants of your lord, and cause Solomon my son to ride upon mine own mule, and bring him down to Gihon. And let Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet anoint him there as king over Israel; and blow ye the trumpet, and say, 'Long live king Solomon!' And ye shall come up after him; and he shall come and sit upon my throne; and he shall be king in my stead; for I have appointed him to be prince over Israel and over Judah." And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada answered the king, and said, "Amen! May Jehovah the God of my lord the king say so. As Jehovah hath been with my lord the king, even so may he be with Solomon; yea may he make his throne greater than the throne of my lord king David!"

So Zadok the priest, and Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and the lictors and the harbingers, went down: and they caused Solomon to ride upon king David's mule, and brought him to Gihon. And Zadok the priest took a horn of oil out of the tabernacle, and anointed Solomon; and they blew the trumpet; and all the people said, "Long live king Solomon!" And all the people came up after him; and the people piped with pipes, and rejoiced with great joy, so that the earth rent with the sound of them.

And Adonijah and all the guests that were with him heard it, when they had made an end of eating. And Joab heard the sound of the trumpet, and he said, "Wherefore is this noise of the city in an uproar?" And while he was yet speaking, behold Jonathan the son of Abiathar the priest came; and Adonijah said unto him, "Come in, for thou art

43 a valiant man and bringest good tidings." And Jonathan answered and said unto Adonijah, "Verily our lord king
 44 David hath made Solomon king: and the king hath sent with him Zadok the priest, and Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and the lictors and the harbingers; and
 45 they have caused him to ride on the king's mule: and Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet have anointed him as king in Gihon; and they are come up thence rejoicing, so that the city doth ring again: this is the noise that ye have heard.
 46 And also Solomon sitteth on the throne of the kingdom.
 47 And moreover the king's servants came to bless our lord king David, saying, 'God make the name of Solomon better than thy name, and his throne greater than thy throne!' and the
 48 king bowed himself upon his bed. And also the king said thus, 'Blessed be Jehovah the God of Israel, who hath given *unto me* one to sit upon my throne this day, mine eyes even
 49 seeing it.'" And all the guests that were with Adonijah were afraid: and they rose up and went, every man his way.
 50 And Adonijah was afraid because of Solomon; and he arose and went and caught hold on the horns of the altar.
 51 And it was told unto Solomon, saying, "Behold, Adonijah is afraid of king Solomon; for lo, he hath caught hold on the horns of the altar, saying, 'Let king Solomon swear unto me this day that he will not slay his servant with the sword.'"
 52 And Solomon said, "If he will be a worthy man, not a hair of him shall fall to the ground: but if wickedness shall be
 52 found in him, then he shall die." So king Solomon sent and they brought him down from the altar: and he came and bowed himself before king Solomon; and Solomon said to him, "Go to thy house."

1 CHAP. II.—Now the days of David drew near that he
 2 should die; and he charged Solomon his son, saying, "I go the way of all the earth; but be thou strong and show thy-
 3 self a man: and keep the charge of Jehovah thy God, walking in his ways, keeping his statutes and his commandments and his judgments and his testimonies, as it is written in the law of Moses; that thou mayest prosper in all that thou
 4 doest, and every thing unto which thou turnest thyself: that Jehovah may fulfil his word which he spake concerning me, saying, 'If thy children take heed to their way, walking before me in truth, with all their heart and with all their soul, there shall not fail thee a man *to sit* on the throne of Israel.'

Moreover thou knowest what Joab the son of Zeruiah did unto 5 me, and what he did unto the two captains of the hosts of Israel, unto Abner the son of Ner and unto Amasa the son of Jether; whom he slew; yea he shed the blood of war in peace, and put the blood of war upon his girdle that was about his loins, and his sandals that were on his feet. Do 6 therefore according to thy wisdom, and let not his hoary head go down to the grave in peace. But shew kindness 7 unto the sons of Barzillai the Gileadite, and let them be of those that eat at thy table; for so they came to me when I fled before Absalom thy brother. And behold thou hast 8 with thee Shimei the son of Gera the Benjaminite of Bahurim, who cursed me with a grievous curse in the day when I went to Mahanaim; but he came down to meet me at the Jordan; and I sware to him by Jehovah, saying, 'I will not put thee to death with the sword.' But now hold him not guiltless; 9 for thou art a wise man and knowest what thou oughtest to do unto him; only his hoary head shalt thou bring down to the grave with blood."

So David slept with his fathers, and he was buried in the 10 city of David. And the days that David reigned over Israel 11 were forty years; seven years he reigned in Hebron, and thirty and three years he reigned in Jerusalem. And Solo- 12 mon sat upon the throne of David his father, and his kingdom was firmly established.

And Adonijah the son of Haggith came to Bath-sheba the 13 mother of Solomon: and she said, "Comest thou in peace?" and he said, "Yea in peace." And he said, "I have some- 14 what to say unto thee:" and she said, "Say on." And he 15 said, "Thou knowest that the kingdom was mine; for on me had all Israel set their faces that I should be king; but the kingdom is turned about, and is become my brother's; for it was given unto him by Jehovah. And now I ask of 16 thee one petition; say me not nay." And she said unto him, "Say on." And he said, "Speak, I pray thee, unto 17 Solomon the king, (for he will not say thee nay,) that he give unto me Abishag the Shunammite to wife." And Bath- 18 sheba said, "It is well: I will speak for thee unto the king." So Bath-sheba went unto king Solomon, to speak 19 unto him for Adonijah. And the king rose up to meet her, and bowed himself unto her, and sat upon his throne; and caused a throne to be set for the king's mother; and she sat on his right hand. And she said, "I ask of thee one small 20

petition ; say me not nay." And the king said, "Ask on,
21 my mother, for I will not say thee nay." And she said,
" Let Abishag the Shunammite be given unto Adonijah thy
22 brother, to wife." And king Solomon answered and said
unto his mother, " And why dost thou ask Abishag the
Shunammite for Adonijah ? Ask for him the kingdom also,
seeing that he is mine elder brother ! even for him, and for
23 Abiathar the priest, and for Joab the son of Zeruiah !" Then
king Solomon sware by Jehovah, saying, " God do so to me,
and more also, if Adonijah have not spoken this word against
24 his own life. Now therefore, as Jehovah liveth, who hath
established me, and set me on the throne of David my father,
and who hath made for me an house as he hath promised,
25 Adonijah shall be put to death this day." And king Solo-
mon sent by the hand of Benaiah the son of Jehoiada ; and
he fell upon him that he died.

26 And the king said unto Abiathar the priest, " Get thee to
Anathoth, unto thine own fields ; for thou art worthy of
death ; but I will not put thee to death this day, because
thou carriedst the ark of the Lord Jehovah before David
my father, and because thou wast afflicted in all things
27 wherein my father was afflicted." And Solomon deposed
Abiathar from being priest unto Jehovah ; fulfilling the word
of Jehovah which he spake concerning the house of Eli, in
Shiloh.

28 And these tidings came to Joab : for Joab had turned
after Adonijah, though he had not turned after Absalom :
and Joab fled to the tabernacle of Jehovah, and caught hold
29 on the horns of the altar. And it was told unto king Solo-
mon that Joab was fled to the tabernacle of Jehovah, " and
behold, he is by the altar :" and Solomon sent Benaiah the
30 son of Jehoiada, saying, " Go fall upon him." And Ben-
aiah came to the tabernacle of Jehovah, and said unto him,
" Thus saith the king, ' Come forth.' " And he said, " Nay,
but I will die here." And Benaiah brought back word unto
the king, saying, " Thus said Joab, and thus he answered
31 me." And the king said, " Do as he hath spoken, and fall
upon him, and bury him ; that thou mayest take away the in-
nocent blood which Joab shed, from me and from my father's
32 house. And Jehovah shall requite his blood-guiltiness upon
his own head ; who fell upon two men more righteous and
better than himself, and slew them with the sword, my
father David not knowing it ; even Abner the son of Ner,

captain of the host of Israel, and Amasa the son of Jether, captain of the host of Judah. Their blood shall therefore be requited upon the head of Joab, and upon the head of his seed for ever; but upon David, and upon his seed, and upon his house, and upon his throne, there shall be peace for ever from Jehovah." And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada went up and fell upon him and slew him: and he was buried in his own house in the wilderness. And the king put Benaiah the son of Jehoiada over the host in his room: and Zadok the priest the king put in the room of Abiathar.

And the king sent and called for Shimei, and said unto him, "Build thee a house in Jerusalem, and dwell there; and go not forth thence, hither or thither: for it shall come to pass that on the day that thou goest forth and crossest the brook Kidron, thou shalt know for certain that thou shalt surely die; thy blood shall be upon thine own head." And Shimei said unto the king, "The saying is good; as my lord the king hath said, so will thy servant do." And Shimei dwelt in Jerusalem many days. And it came to pass at the end of three years, that two of the servants of Shimei ran away unto Achish the son of Maacah, king of Gath: and it was told unto Shimei, saying, "Behold thy servants are in Gath." And Shimei arose and saddled his ass, and went to Gath, to Achish, to seek his servants; and Shimei went and brought his servants from Gath. And it was told unto Solomon that Shimei had gone from Jerusalem to Gath, and that he was returned. And the king sent and called for Shimei, and said unto him, "Did I not make thee swear by Jehovah, and did I not protest unto thee, saying, 'On the day that thou goest forth and walkest abroad hither or thither, know for certain that thou shalt surely die?' And didst thou not say unto me, 'The word that I have heard is good?' Why then hast thou not kept the oath unto Jehovah, and the commandment that I laid upon thee?" And the king said unto Shimei, "Thou knowest all the wickedness of which thy heart is conscious, which thou didst commit against David my father: therefore Jehovah shall requite thy wickedness upon thine own head: but king Solomon shall be blessed, and the throne of David shall be established before Jehovah for ever." So the king commanded Benaiah the son of Jehoiada; and he went out and fell upon him, that he died. And the kingdom was established in the hand of Solomon.

1 CHAP. III.—And Solomon connected himself by marriage with Pharaoh king of Egypt; for he took Pharaoh's daughter to wife; and he brought her into the city of David, until he had finished the building of his own house, and the house
2 of Jehovah, and the wall of Jerusalem round about. (*Now* the people sacrificed on the high places only: because there was no house built unto the name of Jehovah, until those
3 days.) And Solomon loved Jehovah, walking in the statutes of David his father: only he sacrificed and burnt incense on the high places.
4 And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there; for that was the great high place; *and* Solomon offered upon that
5 altar a thousand burnt-offerings. *And* Jehovah appeared unto Solomon in Gibeon, in a dream by night; and God
6 said, “Ask what I shall give unto thee.” And Solomon said, “Thou hast shewed great mercy unto thy servant David my father, even as he also walked before thee in truth, and in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with thee; and thou hast kept for him this great mercy, that thou hast
7 given him a son to sit upon his throne, as it is this day. And now, O Jehovah my God, thou hast made thy servant king instead of David my father; and I am *but* a little child;
8 and I know not how to go out or to come in. And thy servant is in the midst of thy people which thou hast chosen; a great people, which cannot be numbered nor counted for
9 multitude. Give therefore unto thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that he may be able to discern between good and evil; for who is able to judge this great
10 people of thine?” And the speech pleased the Lord, that
11 Solomon had asked this thing. And God said unto him, “Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life, neither hast asked for thyself riches, neither hast asked the life of thine enemies, but hast asked
12 for thyself wisdom to understand judgment, behold, I have done according to thy words. Behold, I have given unto thee a wise and understanding heart, so that none before thee hath been like unto thee, and after thee none shall arise
13 like unto thee. And I have also given unto thee that which thou hast not asked, both riches and glory; so that among
14 the kings, none shall be like unto thee, all thy days. And if thou wilt walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as thy father David walked, then will I
15 lengthen thy days.” And Solomon awoke, and, behold, it was

a dream. And he went to Jerusalem, and stood before the ark of the covenant of Jehovah; and he offered burnt-offerings, and sacrificed peace-offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

Then came unto the king two women that were harlots; 16 and they stood before him. And the first woman said, "O my 17 lord, I and this woman dwell in one house; and I was delivered of a child with her in the house. And it came to pass 18 on the third day after I was delivered, that this woman also was delivered of a child: and we were together; there was no stranger with us in the house; *now* except us two in the house. And this woman's child died in the night, for she overlaid it. 19 And she arose in the middle of the night, and took my child 20 from beside me; (for thy handmaid was asleep;) and she laid it in her bosom; and her own dead child she laid in my bosom. And I arose in the morning to give suck to my 21 child, and, behold, it was dead: and I examined it in the morning, and, behold, it was not my child which I had brought forth." And the other woman said, "Nay, but the 22 living child is mine, and the dead child is thine." And the *first* woman said, "Nay, but the dead child is thine, and the living child is mine." Thus they spake before the king. And the king said, "The one saith, 'This living child is 23 mine, and the dead child is thine,' and the other saith, 'Nay, but the dead child is thine, and the living child is mine.'" And the king said, "Bring me a sword." And 24 they brought a sword unto the king. And the king said, 25 "Cut the living child in two, and give half to the one and half to the other." And the woman whose the living child 26 was, spake unto the king; for her bowels yearned for her child; and she said, "O my lord, give unto her the living child, and by no means put it to death:" but the other said, "Let it be neither mine nor thine, but divide it." And the 27 king answered and said, "Give unto her the living child, and by no means put it to death: she is its mother." And 28 all Israel heard the judgment which the king had pronounced; and they feared the king; for they saw that the wisdom of God was in him, to do justice.

CHAP. IV.—And king Solomon reigned over all Israel: 1
And these were his chief ministers:—²

Azariah, the son of Zadok the priest, *and* Elihoreph and ³
Ahijah, the sons of Shisha, were the secretaries: Jehoshaphat

4 the son of Ahilud was the remembrancer: and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over the host: and Zadok and Abiathar
 5 were the priests: and Azariah the son of Nathan was over the prefects: and Zabud the son of Nathan the priest was the
 6 king's companion: and Ahishar was over the household; and Adoniram the son of Abda was over the labour-conscripti-
 tion.

7 And Solomon had twelve prefects over all Israel; and they supplied provisions for the king and his household; each
 8 was to supply provisions one month in the year. And these were their names.

9 The son of Hur *was prefect* in Mount Ephraim: the son of Deker, in Makaz and in Shaalbim, and Beth-shemesh, and
 10 Elon-beth-hanan: the son of Hesed, in Arubboth; to him
 11 also pertained Sochoh and all the land of Hepher: the son of Abinadab, in all the region of Dor; (he had Taphath the
 12 daughter of Solomon to wife:) Baanah the son of Ahilud, in Taanach, and Megiddo, and all Beth-shean, which is beside
 Zarethana, below Jezreel; from Beth-shean even unto Abel-
 13 mehulah, and beyond Jokneam: the son of Geber, in Ramoth-gilead; to him pertained the villages of Jair the son of
 Manasseh, which are in Gilead; to him also pertained the
 14 region of Argob, which is in Bashan; sixty great cities with
 walls and brazen gate-bars. Ahinadab the son of Iddo had
 15 Mahanaim: Ahimaaz was in Naphtali; (he also had obtained
 16 Basemath the daughter of Solomon to wife:) Baanah the
 17 son of Hushai was in Asher and in Aloth: Jehoshaphat the
 18 son of Paruah was in Issachar: Shimei the son of Elah, in
 19 Benjamin: Geber the son of Uri was in the land of Gilead,
 the land of Sihon king of the Amorites, and Og king of Bashan; and he was the only prefect that was in that land.

20 And Judah and Israel were many, as the sand which is by the sea for multitude: eating and drinking, and making
 21 merry. And Solomon reigned over all the kingdoms from the river *Euphrates* to the land of the Philistines, and unto the border of Egypt: they brought presents, and served Solomon all the days of his life.

22 And Solomon's provision for each day was thirty cors of fine flour, and sixty cors of meal: ten fat oxen, and twenty oxen out of the pastures, and an hundred sheep; besides 24 harts, and antelopes, and fallow-deer, and fatted fowl. For he had dominion over all *the region* on this side the river; from Tiphsach even unto Gaza; over all the kings on this

side the river; and he had peace on all sides round about. And Judah and Israel dwelt securely, every man under his vine and under his fig-tree, from Dan even unto Beer-sheba, all the days of Solomon.

And Solomon had forty thousand pairs of horses for his chariots; and twelve thousand saddle-horses. And those prefects supplied provision for king Solomon, and for all that came to king Solomon's table, each in his month: they let nothing be wanting. And barley and straw for the horses and for the steeds, they brought unto the place where he was, each in his turn.

And God gave unto Solomon exceeding great wisdom and understanding, and largeness of heart, even as the sand which is on the sea-shore. And the wisdom of Solomon was greater than the wisdom of all the men of the east, yea than all the wisdom of Egypt; for he was wiser than all men; than Ethan the Ezrahite, and Heman, and Chalcol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol; and his name was in all the nations round about. And he spake three thousand Proverbs: and his Songs were a thousand and five. And he spake of trees, from the cedar that is in Lebanon even unto the hyssop that springeth out of the wall: he spake also of beasts, and of birds, and of creeping things, and of fishes. And there came men of all nations to hear the wisdom of Solomon, from all the kings of the earth, who had heard of his wisdom.

CHAP. V.—And Hiram king of Tyre sent his servants unto Solomon, when he heard that he had been anointed king in the room of his father; for Hiram had ever been a friend of David. And Solomon sent unto Hiram, saying, “Thou knowest that David my father could not build a house unto the name of Jehovah his God, because of the war which was about him on every side, until Jehovah put them under the soles of his feet. But now Jehovah my God hath given me quietness on every side; there is no adversary and no untoward event. And, behold, I purpose to build a house unto the name of Jehovah my God, even as Jehovah spake unto David my father, saying, ‘Thy son whom I will set upon thy throne in thy room, he shall build a house unto my name.’ And now command that cedar-trees may be hewn for me out of Lebanon; and my servants shall be with thy servants; and the wages of thy servants I will give unto thee, according to all that thou shalt say; for thou

knowest that among us there is none that understandeth the hewing of timber like the Zidonians."

7 And it came to pass that when Hiram heard the words of Solomon, he rejoiced greatly, and said, "Blessed be Jehovah this day, who hath given unto David a wise son over this great people." And Hiram sent to Solomon, saying, "I have considered the message which thou hast sent to me, *and I will do all thy desire, concerning timber of cedar, and concerning timber of cypress.* My servants shall bring them down from Lebanon to the sea, and I will convey them by sea in rafts, to the place that thou shalt appoint me; and I will discharge them there, and thou shalt receive them: and thou shalt accomplish my desire, in giving food for my household." And Hiram gave unto Solomon cedar-trees and cypress-trees, as many as he desired. And Solomon gave unto Hiram twenty thousand cors of wheat for food to his household, and twenty cors of fine oil; thus much Solomon gave unto Hiram year by year. And Jehovah gave wisdom unto Solomon, as he had said unto him; and there was peace between Hiram and Solomon; and they two made a league.

13 And king Solomon raised a labour-conscription out of all Israel; and the labour-conscription was of thirty thousand men: and he sent them to Lebanon, ten thousand each month, by turns; they were a month in Lebanon and two months at home; and Adoniram was over the labour-conscription. And Solomon had seventy thousand bearers of burdens, and eighty thousand hewers in the mountains, besides the chiefs of the officers of Solomon who were over the work, three thousand and three hundred, who directed the people that wrought at the work. And the king commanded, and they brought great stones, costly stones, and hewn stones, to lay a foundation for the house. And Solomon's builders, and Hiram's builders, and the Gibelites, hewed *them*; and prepared the timber and the stones to build the house.

1 CHAP. VI.—And it came to pass, in the four hundred and eightieth year after the departure of the children of Israel from Egypt, in the fourth year of the reign of Solomon over Israel, in the month Ziv, which is the second month, that 2 he *began to* build the house of Jehovah. And the house which king Solomon built for Jehovah, was sixty cubits in length, and twenty cubits in breadth, and thirty cubits in

height. And the porch which was in front of the temple of the house was twenty cubits in length, corresponding to the breadth of the house: and ten cubits in breadth, in front of the house. And he made in the temple, windows 4 with narrow lattices. And he built against the wall of the 5 house, tiers of chambers round about, encompassing the walls of the house, both of the temple and the sanctuary: and he made chambers round about. The lower tier was five cubits 6 in breadth, and the middle tier was six cubits in breadth, and the third was seven cubits in breadth; for he had made off-sets on the outside of the house, round about, that *the beams* should not be fastened into the walls of the house. And the house 7 was built of finished stones from the quarry: neither hammer nor axe *nor* any iron tool was heard in the house, while it was building. The entrance to the middle tier of chambers was 8 at the corner of the building toward the right; and by winding stairs they ascended to the middle tier, and from the middle to the third. And he built the house and finished it, 9 and covered the house with boards and planks of cedar. And 10 he built the tiers of chambers against the whole house; *each tier* five cubits in height; and they adhered to the house by timbers of cedar.

And the word of Jehovah came to Solomon, saying, “As 12 for this house which thou art building, if thou wilt walk in my statutes, and wilt execute my judgments, and keep all my commandments, and walk in them, then I will establish with thee my word, which I spake unto David thy father: and I 13 will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel, and I will not forsake my people Israel.”

And Solomon built the house and finished it. And he 15 built the walls of the house within, with planks of cedar; from the floor of the house even to the *top of the* walls under the roof, he covered it with wood on the inside: and he covered the floor of the house with planks of cypress. And 16 he built the twenty cubits toward the rear of the house, with planks of cedar, from the floor even to the *top of the* walls; and he built it within, for a sanctuary, even for the most holy place. And forty cubits was the house, that is the temple, 17 in front of it. And the cedar on the house inside was 18 carved with bosses and open flowers; the whole was of cedar; no stone was seen. And he prepared the sanctuary 19 in the inmost part of the house, to place there the ark of the covenant of Jehovah. And the sanctuary was opposite to 20

- the entrance*; twenty cubits in length, and twenty cubits in breadth, and twenty cubits in height; and he overlaid it with pure gold; he also overlaid the altar which was of cedar.
- 21 And Solomon overlaid the inmost part of the house with pure gold; and he made a partition with chains of gold in front of the sanctuary; and he overlaid it with gold. And
- 22 the whole house he overlaid with gold, until he had completed the whole house; and the whole of the altar which was before the sanctuary, he overlaid with gold.
- 23 And he made in the sanctuary two cherubs of olive-wood,
- 24 each ten cubits in height. And the first wing of *each* cherub was five cubits *in length*, and the second wing of *each* cherub was five cubits; ten cubits from the one extremity of its
- 25 wings to the other. And the second cherub was ten cubits;
- 26 the two cherubs were of one measure and of one size: the height of the first cherub was ten cubits; and so also was
- 27 that of the second cherub. And he placed the cherubs in the midst of the inmost part of the house; and the wings of the cherubs were expanded; and the wing of the first touched the *one* wall, and the wing of the second cherub touched the other wall; and their wings touched in the midst of the
- 28 house, wing to wing. And he overlaid the cherubs with gold.
- 29 And he carved the walls of the house round about with carved figures of cherubs, and palm-trees, and open flowers,
- 30 both in the inner and the outer portions. And the ceiling of the house he overlaid with gold, both in the inner and the outer portions.
- 31 And for the entrance to the sanctuary he made doors of olive-wood; the lintel over the door-posts was a fifth part of
- 32 *the wall in length*. And the two doors were of olive-wood; and he carved upon them carvings of cherubs, and palm-trees, and open flowers; and he overlaid them with gold; and he spread gold over the cherubs and over the palm-trees.
- 33 And in like manner he made, for the entrance of the temple, door-posts of olive-wood, the fourth part of the wall *in height*. And the two doors were of cypress-wood; the two leaves of the first door were folding, and the two leaves
- 34 of the second door were folding. And he carved thereon cherubs, and palm-trees, and open flowers; and he overlaid them with gold, spread evenly over the carving.
- 35 And he built the inner court-wall with three courses of hewn stone, and a course of cedar-beams.
- 36 In the fourth year the foundation of the house of Jehovah

was laid, in the month Ziv: and in the eleventh year, in ³³ the month of Bul, which is the eighth month, the house was completed in all its parts, and in all its plans: so he was seven years in building it.

CHAP. VII.—And Solomon was thirteen years in building his own house, and in completing all his house.

And he built the house of the Forest of Lebanon. It ² was an hundred cubits in length, and fifty cubits in breadth, and thirty cubits in height; *built* on four rows of columns of cedar, with beams of cedar on the columns. And it was ³ covered with cedar above, over the beams which lay on the columns; forty-five *beams*; fifteen in each row. And the ⁴ horizontal beams were in three tiers; and light corresponded to light, thrice. And all the doors and door-posts were ⁵ squared, with horizontal lintels: and light was opposite to light, thrice. And he made the porch of *the house of co-* ⁶ lumns; fifty cubits in length and thirty cubits in breadth; and the porch and the columns *of the house*, and *its* roof, were fronting each other.

And he made the porch of the throne, the porch of ⁷ judgment, wherein he might judge; and he covered it with cedar, from floor to roof. And his own house in which he ⁸ dwelt, was the court in the rear, within that porch; it was of the same workmanship; and Solomon also made a house for the daughter of Pharaoh, whom he had married, like unto the porch.

All these were of costly stones, hewn according to measurements; sawed with saws, within and without, both from the foundation to the coping, and from the outside to the great court. And the foundation was of costly stones, great stones, ¹⁰ stones of ten cubits, and stones of eight cubits. And above ¹¹ were costly stones, hewn according to measurements; and cedars. And the great court-wall round about was of three ¹² courses of hewn stone, and a course of cedar-beams, like the inner court-wall of the house of Jehovah, and the porch of the temple.

And king Solomon sent and brought Hiram from Tyre. ¹³ He was the son of a widow of the tribe of Naphtali; but his ¹⁴ father was a Tyrian. And he was an artificer in brass; and he was filled with wisdom, and understanding, and knowledge, for executing all manner of work in brass. And he came to king Solomon and executed all his work.

15 And he formed the two columns of brass ; eighteen cubits was the height of the first column, *and eighteen cubits was the height of the second column ; and a cord of twelve cubits encompassed the first column*, and a cord of twelve cubits encompassed the second column. And he made two capitals of molten brass, to place on the tops of the columns : five cubits was the height of the first capital, and five cubits was 16 the height of the second capital. *And he made* nets of net-work, and wreaths of chain-work, for the capitals which were on the tops of the columns, seven for the first capital, and 17 seven for the second capital. And he made the pomegranates, in two rows, round about the first net-work, to cover the capital which was on the top of the column ; and in like 18 manner he did unto the second capital. And the capitals which were upon the tops of the columns in the porch, had 19 four cubits of lily-work. And the capitals upon the two columns also *had pomegranates* above, close to the swell-moulding which was beyond the net-work : and the pomegranates were two hundred, in rows round about, upon *each of* 20 the two capitals. And he reared the columns of the porch of the temple ; and he reared the right-hand column, and he called its name Jachin : [HE WILL ESTABLISH.] and he reared the left-hand column, and he called its name Boaz : 21 [ENERGY.] And upon the top of the columns was lily-work. Thus was the work of the columns completed.

22 And he made the molten sea, ten cubits from brim to brim ; round all about ; and it was five cubits in height ; and 23 a line of thirty cubits encompassed it about. And there were bosses under its brim, encompassing it all round ; ten in a cubit, encompassing the sea all round ; the bosses were 24 in two rows, cast when it was cast. And it stood upon twelve oxen ; three facing toward the north, and three facing toward the west, and three facing toward the south, and three facing toward the east : and the sea was set upon them 25 above ; and all their hinder parts were inward. And it was an hand-breadth in thickness ; and its brim was as the workmanship of the brim of a cup, with flowers of lilies. It contained two thousand baths.

26 And he made the ten *laver-stands* of brass ; four cubits was the length of each stand, and four cubits its breadth, 27 and three cubits its height. And this was the workmanship of the stands : they had panels, and the panels were within 28 the mouldings : and upon the panels which were within the

mouldings, were lions, oxen, and cherubs; and so likewise on the top, above the mouldings; and below the lions and oxen, were garlands of hanging work. And each stand had four ³⁰ wheels of brass, and axles of brass; and at its four corners were shoulders for them; below the laver were the shoulders cast, each one opposite to the garlands. And the mouth ³¹ of the laver was within the top-ledge; and it was a cubit above it; and its mouth was round, of the workmanship of the base, a cubit and an half *was its full height*: and upon its mouth also were carvings; and their panellings were square, not round. And there were four wheels beneath the ³² panels, and the axles of the wheels were upon the stands; and the height of each wheel was a cubit and a half. And ³³ the workmanship of the wheels was as the workmanship of the wheel of a chariot; their axles, and their felloes, and their spokes, and their naves, were all cast. And the four shoul- ³⁴ ders were at the four corners of each stand; from each stand its shoulders *projected*. And upon the top of the stand, was ³⁵ a round *opening*, half a cubit in depth; even upon the top of the stand. Its axles and its panels were of itself. And ³⁶ he engraved upon the plates of its sides, and on its panels, cherubs, lions, and palm-trees, each according to its proportion; and garlands, round about. Thus he made the ten ³⁷ stands; all of them had one casting, one measure, and one size.

And he made ten layers of brass: each layer contained ³⁸ forty baths; four cubits was each layer in *width*; the first layer on the first stand, *and so* for the ten stands. And he ³⁹ put five stands upon the right side of the temple, and five upon the left side of the temple: and he set the sea on the right side of the temple, eastward, toward the south.

And Hiram made the flesh-hooks, and the shovels, and ⁴⁰ the basons.

And Hiram finished the making of all the work which he made for king Solomon, for the house of Jehovah: the ⁴¹ two columns, and the bowls of the capitals which were on the top of the two columns, and the two net-works to cover the two bowls of the capitals which were on the top of the columns: and the four hundred pomegranates of the two net- ⁴² works, two rows of pomegranates for each net-work, to cover the two bowls which were on the front of the columns: and ⁴³ the ten *laver*-stands, and the ten layers upon the stands: and ⁴⁴ the one sea, and the twelve oxen underneath the sea; and ⁴⁵ the flesh-hooks, and the shovels, and the basons. And all these

articles which Hiram made for Solomon, for the house of
46 Jehovah, were of polished brass : the king cast them in the plain of Jordan, in the thick clay between Succoth and
47 Zarethan. And Solomon left all the articles *unweighed*, because they were exceeding many ; and the weight of the brass was not ascertained.

48 And Solomon made all the *golden* furniture which was in the house of Jehovah : the altar of gold, and the golden
49 table on which was the shew-bread, and the lamp-stands of fine gold, five on the right hand and five on the left, before the sanctuary ; and the flowers, and the lamps, and the
50 golden tongs ; and the dishes, and the snuffers, and the basons, and the snuff-dishes, and the censers, of pure gold ; and the golden hinges for the doors of the inner house, the most holy place, and for the doors of the building of the
51 temple. Thus was completed all the work which king Solomon made for the house of Jehovah.

And Solomon brought the things which David his father had dedicated, the silver, and the gold, and the furniture ; and put them into the treasuries of the house of Jehovah.

1 CHAP. VIII.—Then Solomon gathered together all the elders of Israel, and all the heads of the tribes, the chief of the fathers of the children of Israel, unto king Solomon in Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of Jehovah
2 from the city of David, which is Zion. And all the men of Israel gathered themselves together unto king Solomon, at the Feast of Tabernacles, in the month Ethanim, which is the
3 seventh month. And all the elders of Israel came ; and the
4 priests took up the ark ; and they brought up the ark of Jehovah, and the tabernacle of congregation, and all the implements of the holy place, which were in the tabernacle ;
5 and the priests and the Levites brought them up. And king Solomon and all the assembly of Israel that were convened unto him, were with him before the ark, sacrificing sheep and oxen, which could not be counted nor numbered for multitude. And the priests brought the ark of the covenant of Jehovah unto its place, into the *sanctuary* of the house, into
7 the most holy place, beneath the wings of the cherubs. For the cherubs had their wings spread forth over the place of the ark, and the cherubs covered the ark and its poles above.
8 And they drew out the poles, and the tops of the poles were seen from the holy place in front of the *sanctuary* ; but they

were not seen from the outside of *the temple*: and they are there until this day. There was nothing in the ark but the two tables of stone which Moses put there in Horeb, when Jehovah made a covenant with the children of Israel, when they had come forth from the land of Egypt. And it came to pass, that, when the priests came forth from the holy place, the cloud filled the house of Jehovah. And the priests could not stand to minister, because of the cloud; for the glory of Jehovah had filled Jehovah's house.

Then Solomon said:—“Jehovah hath said that he would dwell in the thick darkness, *yet* have I built a house for thy habitation, a settled place for thee to abide in for ever.”

And the king turned his face, and blessed the whole assembly of Israel: (and all the assembly of Israel were standing:) And he said, “Blessed be Jehovah the God of Israel, who spake with his mouth unto David my father, as with his hand he hath fulfilled, saying, ‘From the day that I brought my people Israel forth out of Egypt, I chose no city out of all the tribes of Israel, to build *in it* a house, that my name might be there; but I chose David to be over my people Israel.’ And it was in the heart of David my father to build a house unto the name of Jehovah the God of Israel. But Jehovah said unto David my father, ‘Forasmuch as it was in thy heart to build a house unto my name, thou hast done well that it was in thy heart: nevertheless thou shalt not build the house; but thy son, who shall come forth out of thy loins, he shall build the house unto my name.’ And Jehovah hath performed his word which he spake; for I have risen up in the room of David my father, and I sit upon the throne of Israel, as Jehovah spake; and I have built this house unto the name of Jehovah the God of Israel: and I have set there, *in its* place, the ark in which is the covenant of Jehovah, which he made with our fathers, when he brought them out of the land of Egypt.”

And Solomon stood up before the altar of Jehovah, in presence of the whole assembly of Israel, and he spread forth his hands toward heaven, and said, “O Jehovah, God of Israel! there is no God like thee, in the heavens above, or on the earth beneath, who keepest covenant and mercy with thy servants that walk before thee with all their heart; who hast kept with thy servant David my father that which thou didst promise unto him; yea thou spakest with thy

mouth, and with thy hand thou hast fulfilled ; as *it is* this
25 day. And now, O Jehovah God of Israel, keep with thy
servant David my father that which thou didst promise unto
him, saying, ‘There shall not fail thee a man in my sight to
sit on the throne of Israel, if only thy children will take
heed to their way, walking before me as thou hast walked
26 before me :’ yea now, O God of Israel, let thy word be
verified, which thou didst speak unto thy servant David my
father.

27 “ But will God indeed dwell upon the earth ? Behold, the
heavens, yea the heaven of heavens cannot contain thee ; how
28 much less this house which I have built ! Yet turn thou
unto the prayer of thy servant, and unto his supplication, O
Jehovah my God, and hearken unto the cry and the prayer
29 which thy servant prayeth before thee this day ; that thine
eyes may be open toward this house, night and day, *even*
toward the place of which thou hast said, ‘ My name shall be
there ; ’ that thou mayest hearken unto the prayer that thy
30 servant shall pray toward this place. And hearken thou
unto the supplication of thy servant, and thy people Israel,
when they shall pray toward this place ; yea hear thou in
heaven thy dwelling-place ; and when thou hearest, forgive.

31 “ If any man trespass against his neighbour, and an oath
be laid upon him to cause him to swear, and the oath come
32 before thine altar in this house, then hear thou in heaven,
and do : and judge thy servants, condemning the guilty, and
bringing *the evil of his way* upon his own head, and justifying
the righteous, and giving unto him according to his
righteousness.

33 “ When thy people Israel shall be smitten down before the
enemy, because they have sinned against thee, and shall turn
again to thee, and confess thy name, and pray, and make
34 supplication unto thee in this house, then hear thou in hea-
ven, and forgive the sin of thy people Israel, and bring them
again unto the land which thou gavest unto their fathers.

35 “ When the heavens shall be shut up, and there shall be
no rain, because they have sinned against thee, and they
shall pray toward this place, and confess thy name, and turn
36 again from their sins, when thou hast afflicted them, then
hear thou in heaven, and forgive the sin of thy servants and
thy people Israel ; when thou hast taught them the good way
in which they ought to go ; and give rain upon thy land,
which thou hast given unto thy people for an inheritance.

" When there shall be famine in the land, when there shall be pestilence, when there shall be blight, mildew, locust, or caterpillar, when their enemy in the land shall besiege their gates, *when there shall be any plague, when there shall be* any sickness, whatsoever prayer, whatsoever supplication shall be made by any man, or by all thy people Israel, who shall know each one the taint of his own heart, and shall spread forth his hands towards this house, hear thou in heaven thy dwelling-place, and forgive, and do ; and render unto every one according to his ways, whose heart thou knowest ; for thou alone knowest the hearts of all the children of men ; that they may fear thee all the days of their life, in the land which thou hast given to our fathers.

" And also concerning the stranger who is not of thy people Israel, but cometh from a far country for thy name's sake ; (for they shall hear of thy great name, and thy mighty hand, and thine outstretched arm;) when he shall come and pray toward this house, hear thou in heaven thy dwelling-place, and do according to all that the stranger shall implore of thee ; that all the nations of the earth may know thy name ; that they may fear thee as doth thy people Israel ; and that they may know that this house, which I have built, is called by thy name.

" When thy people shall go forth to war against their enemies, whithersoever thou shalt send them, and they shall pray unto Jehovah, toward the city which thou hast chosen to dwell therein, and this house which I have built unto thy name, then hear thou in heaven their prayer and supplication, and maintain their cause.

" When they shall sin against thee, (for there is no man that sinneth not,) and thou shalt be angry with them, and shalt deliver them up to their enemies, and they shall carry them away captive into the land of their enemies, far or near, if they shall lay it to heart in the land whither they have been carried away captive, and repent, and make supplication to thee in the land of them that have carried them away captive, saying, ' We have sinned, we have done perversely, we have committed iniquity,' and shall return unto thee with all their heart, and with all their soul, in the land of their enemies who have carried them away captive, and shall pray unto thee toward their own land which thou gavest unto their fathers, the city which thou hast chosen, and the house which I have built unto thy name,—then hear thou in heaven thy

dwelling-place, their prayer and their supplication, and main-
50 tain their cause ; and forgive thy people that wherein they
have sinned against thee, and all their transgressions whereby
they have transgressed against thee ; and grant unto them
51 compassion in the sight of them that have carried them away
52 captive, that they may have compassion upon them ; for
they are thine own people, and thine inheritance, whom thou
broughtest out of Egypt, from the midst of the furnace of
53 iron : that thine eyes may be open unto the supplication of
thy servant, and unto the supplication of thy people Israel ;
that thou mayest hearken unto them whensoever they cry
54 unto thee. For thou hast separated them unto thyself, for
an inheritance, from all the nations of the earth, as thou hast
declared through Moses thy servant, when thou didst bring
our fathers forth from Egypt, O Lord Jehovah !”

54 And it came to pass, when Solomon had made an end of
praying unto Jehovah all this prayer and supplication, that
he arose from before the altar of Jehovah, from kneeling upon
55 his knees, with his hands spread out toward heaven. And
he stood up and blessed all the congregation of Israel with
56 a loud voice, saying, “Blessed be Jehovah, who hath given
rest unto his people Israel, according to all that he hath
spoken : not one word hath failed, of all his good promise
57 which he spake by Moses his servant. May Jehovah our
58 God be with us, as he was with our fathers ! May he not
leave us nor forsake us ; inclining our heart unto himself,
that we may walk in all his ways, and keep his command-
ments, and his statutes, and his judgments, which he com-
59 manded our fathers. And may these my words, wherewith
I have made supplication before Jehovah, be near unto Jehovah
our God, day and night, that he may maintain the cause
of his servant, and the cause of his people Israel, at every
60 time of need : so that all the nations of the earth may know
61 that Jehovah, he is God, and that there is none else. And
may your heart be devoted to Jehovah our God, to walk in
his statutes, and to keep his commandments, as it is this
day.”

62 And the king, and all Israel with him, offered sacrifices
63 before Jehovah. And Solomon offered for the sacrifice of
peace-offerings, which he offered unto Jehovah, twenty-two
thousand oxen, and an hundred and twenty thousand sheep.
Thus the king and all the children of Israel dedicated the
64 house of Jehovah. On that day the king consecrated the

middle of the court which was before the house of Jehovah : for he offered there the burnt-offerings, and the meal-offerings, and the fat of the peace-offerings : because the brazen altar which was before Jehovah was too little to receive the burnt-offerings, and the meal-offerings, and the fat of the peace-offerings.

And at that time king Solomon kept the Feast of *Tabernacles*, and all Israel with him, a great assemblage, from the pass of Hamath unto the river of Egypt, gathered before Jehovah our God, for seven days and seven days, even for fourteen days. On the eighth day he sent the people away: 66 and they blessed the king, and went unto their tents, joyful and glad of heart, for all the good which Jehovah had done unto David his servant, and unto Israel his people.

CHAP. IX.—And it came to pass, when Solomon had 1 finished the building of the house of Jehovah, and the king's house, and all that Solomon desired and was pleased to do, that Jehovah appeared unto Solomon a second time, 2 as he had appeared unto him in Gibeon. And Jehovah 3 said unto him, “I have heard thy prayer and thy supplication, which thou hast made before me; I have made this house, which thou hast built, holy, putting my name there for ever; and mine eyes and my heart shall be there perpetually. And if thou wilt walk before me, as David thy 4 father walked, in integrity of heart, and in uprightness, doing according to all that I have commanded thee, and if thou wilt keep my statutes and my judgments, then I will 5 establish the throne of thy kingdom over Israel for ever; as I spake unto David thy father, saying, ‘There shall not fail thee a man to sit upon the throne of Israel.’ But if ye and 6 your children shall turn away from following after me, and shall not keep my commandments and my statutes which I have set before you, but shall go and serve other Gods, and shall bow down unto them, then I will cut off Israel from 7 off the face of the land which I gave unto them; and this house, which I have consecrated unto my name, I will put away from before my face; and Israel shall be a bye-word and a scoff among all nations. And this house shall be an 8 example; every one that passeth by shall be astonished and shall hiss at it; and men shall say, ‘Wherefore hath Jehovah done this, unto this land, and unto this house?’ And they 9 shall say, ‘Because they forsook Jehovah their God, who

brought their fathers out of the land of Egypt, and clave unto other gods, and worshipped them, and served them ; therefore Jehovah hath brought upon them all this calamity.””

- 10 And it came to pass at the end of twenty years, when Solomon had built the two houses, the house of Jehovah and the king’s house, *that inasmuch as* Hiram king of Tyre had furnished Solomon with cedar-trees and cypress-trees, and with gold, according to all his desire, king Solomon gave 12 unto Hiram twenty cities in the land of Galilee. And Hiram went forth from Tyre to see the cities which Solomon had given him ; and they were not pleasing in his eyes.
- 13 And he said, “What sort of cities are these which thou hast given unto me, my brother ?” And he called them the land of Cabul, [HAMPERED,] *which is their name* unto this day.
- 14 Now Hiram had sent unto the king an hundred and twenty talents of gold.
- 15 Now this was the object of the labour-conscription which king Solomon had raised ; to build the house of Jehovah, and his own house, and the embankment, and the wall of Jerusalem, and Hazor, and Megiddo, and Gezer. *For* Pharaoh king of Egypt had gone up and taken Gezer, and had burnt it with fire, and had slain the Canaanites who had dwelt in the city ; and had given it as a dowry unto his daughter, 17 the wife of Solomon. And Solomon built Gezer, and the lower Beth-horon, and Baalath, and Tadmor in the wilderness, in the land of Syria, and all the magazine cities which Solomon had, and the cities for the chariots, and the cities for the steeds ; and all that Solomon chose to build, in Jerusalem, and in Lebanon, and in all the land of his dominion. As for all the people that remained of the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, the Jebusites, (who 21 were not of the children of Israel, but were the children of them that had been left after them in the land, whom the children of Israel had not been able utterly to destroy,) upon them Solomon imposed a tribute of bond-service ; as 22 it is unto this day. But of the children of Israel Solomon did not make bondmen ; but they were *his* warriors, and his servants, and his princes, and his captains, and commanders 23 of his chariots, and of his horsemen. These were the chief of the officers who were over the work of Solomon, five hundred and fifty, who directed the people that wrought at the work.

And as soon as the daughter of Pharaoh had removed ²⁴ from the city of David into her house which *Solomon* had built for her, he then made the embankment.

And three times in each year Solomon offered burnt-²⁵ offerings and peace-offerings upon the altar which he had built unto Jehovah ; and offered incense on that *altar* which was before Jehovah. So he completed the house.

And king Solomon built a fleet at Ezion-geber, which is ²⁶ nigh unto Eloth, upon the shore of the Red Sea, in the land of Edom. And Hiram sent in the fleet, his servants, mariners, acquainted with the sea, along with the servants of Solomon. And they came to Ophir, and thence they ²⁸ fetched gold, four hundred and twenty talents ; and they brought it to king Solomon.

CHAP. X.—And the queen of Sheba heard of the fame ¹ of Solomon which Jehovah had given him ; and she came to try him with hard questions. And she came to Jerusalem ² with a very great train, camels bearing spices and gold, exceeding much, and precious stones ; and she came to Solomon, and spake unto him all that was in her heart. And Solomon told unto her all her questions ; there was ³ not a question hidden from the king, that he told not unto her. And when the queen of Sheba saw all the wisdom ⁴ of Solomon, and the house which he had built, and the provision for his table, and the assemblage of his servants, and the array of his attendants, and their apparel, and his cup-bearers, and his burnt-offerings which he offered in the house of Jehovah, she was amazed beyond measure. And ⁶ she said unto the king, “It was a true report which I heard in mine own land, concerning thine acts and concerning thy wisdom : and I believed not the words until I came ; but ⁷ mine eyes have seen, and, behold, the half was not told me : for thy wisdom and thy prosperity exceed the fame which I heard. Happy are thy men ; happy are these thy servants who stand before thee continually, and hear thy wisdom. Blessed be Jehovah thy God who hath taken ⁹ delight in thee, setting thee on the throne of Israel ; for it is because Jehovah loveth Israel for ever, that he hath made thee king, to do judgment and justice.” And she ¹⁰ gave unto the king an hundred and twenty talents of gold, and spices in great abundance, and precious stones. Never afterwards came there *unto Jerusalem* such an

abundance of spices as the queen of Sheba gave unto king Solomon.

11 And moreover the fleet of Hiram, which carried gold from Ophir, brought from Ophir sandal-wood in great abundance, 12 and precious stones. And the king made of the sandal-wood, brackets for the house of Jehovah, and for the king's house, and harps and lutes for the singers; there never came so much sandal-wood, nor was *so much* ever seen, unto 13 this day. And king Solomon gave unto the queen of Sheba all her desire, whatsoever she asked, beside that which was given unto her of king Solomon's royal bounty. And she turned her face and went to her own land, she and her servants.

14 And the weight of the gold which came to Solomon in one 15 year, was six hundred and sixty six talents of gold; beside that which was obtained from the traders, and from the traffic of the merchants, and from all the allied kings, and from the prefects of the land.

16 And king Solomon made two hundred shields of beaten 17 gold; six hundred *shekels* of gold went to each shield: and three hundred bucklers of beaten gold; three pounds of gold went to each buckler: and the king placed them in the house of the Forest of Lebanon.

18 And the king made a great throne of ivory, and overlaid 19 it with refined gold. There were six steps to the throne, and the top of the throne was rounded behind; and there were supports for the arms, on each side of the place for the 20 seat, and two lions standing beside the supports. And there were twelve lions there, standing on the six steps, one on each side of *each step*. There was not a *throne* made like it, in any kingdom.

21 And all the drinking-vessels of king Solomon were of gold; and all the furniture of the house of the Forest of Lebanon, was of pure gold; none was of silver; that was 22 counted as nothing in the days of Solomon. For the king had a fleet of Tarshish at sea, with the fleet of Hiram: once in three years the fleet of Tarshish came, bringing gold and silver, ivory, and apes, and peacocks.

23 And king Solomon excelled all the kings of the earth, 24 in wealth and in wisdom. And all *the nations* of the earth resorted unto Solomon, to hear his wisdom, which God 25 had put into his heart. And they brought each man his offering, vessels of silver, and vessels of gold, and rai-

ment, and armour, and spices, draught-horses, and mules ; of each a yearly offering. And Solomon gathered together 26 chariots and steeds ; and he had a thousand and four hundred chariots, and twelve thousand steeds ; and they were stationed in the chariot cities, and with the king in Jerusalem.

And the king made silver to be in Jerusalem like stones, 27 and cedar-trees he made to be like the sycamores which grow in the plain, for abundance.

And Solomon's horses were brought out of Egypt ; and a 28 caravan of the king's purchasers received the droves for a settled price. And a chariot came up and was brought out 29 of Egypt for six hundred shekels of silver, and a horse for an hundred and fifty : and at the same rate they brought with them horses for all the kings of the Hittites, and for the kings of Syria.

CHAP. XI.—And Solomon loved many foreign women, 1 besides the daughter of Pharaoh ; Moabites, and Ammonites, and Edomites, and Zidonians, and Hittites ; women of the nations concerning whom Jehovah had said unto the children of Israel, “Ye shall not go among them, and they shall not come among you, lest they entice your hearts to follow after their gods ;” even unto them did Solomon cleave in love. And he had seven hundred princesses as 3 wives, and three hundred concubines ; and his wives perverted his heart. And it came to pass, in the old age of 4 Solomon, that his wives enticed his heart to follow after other gods ; and his heart was not devoted to Jehovah his God, as the heart of David his father. And Solomon went 5 after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. And Solomon did 6 that which was evil in the sight of Jehovah, and went not fully after Jehovah, as David his father had done. Then 7 Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the abomination of Moab, on the mount which is over against Jerusalem, and for Molech the abomination of the children of Ammon. 8 And thus he did for all his foreign wives, when they offered incense and sacrifice unto their own gods.

And Jehovah was angry with Solomon, because he had 9 turned away his heart from Jehovah the God of Israel, who had appeared unto him twice, and had given him command- 10 ment concerning this matter, not to go after other gods ;

- but he had not kept that which Jehovah had commanded.
- 11 And Jehovah said unto Solomon, "Because this hath been *found* with thee, and thou hast not kept my covenant and my statutes which I have commanded thee, I will assuredly rend the kingdom from thee, and give it unto thy servant ;
- 12 yet for David thy father's sake, I will not do this in thine own days ; I will rend it from the hand of thy son. I will not even rend the whole kingdom *from him* ; one tribe I will give unto thy son, for the sake of David my servant, and for the sake of Jerusalem which I have chosen."
- 14 And Jehovah raised up an adversary against Solomon, Hadad the Edomite ; he was of the seed of the kings of Edom. And it came to pass, while David was in Edom, when Joab the captain of the host went up to bury the slain, after he had smitten every male in Edom, (for Joab and all Israel remained there six months, until they had cut off every male in Edom,) that Hadad fled, he and certain Edomites of the servants of his father with him, to go into Egypt ; and Hadad was *then* a young lad. And they arose out of Midian, and came to Paran ; and they took with them men out of Paran ; and they came to Egypt, unto Pharaoh king of Egypt ; and he gave unto him a house, and assigned unto him provisions, and gave him land. And Hadad found great favour in the eyes of Pharaoh ; and he gave him for a wife his own wife's sister, even the sister of Tahpenes the queen. And the sister of Tahpenes bare unto him his son Genubath ; and Tahpcnes weaned him in Pharaoh's house ; and Genubath was in Pharaoh's house, among the sons of Pharaoh. And Hadad heard in Egypt that David slept with his fathers, and that Joab the captain of the host was dead ; and Hadad said unto Pharaoh, "Let me depart that I may go to mine own country." And Pharaoh said unto him, "What then lackest thou with me, that, behold, thou seekest to go to thine own country ?" And he said, "Nay, but let me depart without fail."
- 23 And God raised up against him *another* adversary, Rezon the son of Eliadah, who had fled from his lord, Hadadezer the king of Zobah. And he gathered men unto him, and became captain over a band, when David had slain them of Zobah : and they went to Damascus and dwelt therein ; and 25 he was made king in Damascus. And he was an enemy to Israel all the days of Solomon, beside the mischief that Hadad did : for he abhorred Israel : and he reigned over Syria.

And Jeroboam the son of Nebat, an Ephrathite of Zeredah, 26 (whose mother was a widow, by name Zeruah,) was a servant of Solomon ; and he lifted up his hand against the king. And this was the cause for which he lifted up his hand 27 against the king. Solomon was building the embankment, and was repairing the breach in *the wall* of the city of David his father. And the man Jeroboam was a man 28 of great energy ; and Solomon saw that the young man did his work effectually ; and he set him over all the burden-bearers of the house of Joseph. And it came to pass at 29 that time, that Jeroboam went out of Jerusalem ; and the prophet Ahijah the Shilonite met him in the way ; and he had arrayed himself in a new garment ; and they two were alone in the field. And Ahijah laid hold on the new 30 garment that was upon him, and rent it into twelve pieces. And he said unto Jeroboam, “Take to thyself ten pieces : 31 for thus saith Jehovah the God of Israel, ‘Behold, I will rend the kingdom out of the hand of Solomon, and will give unto thee ten tribes : (but he shall have one tribe, 32 for the sake of David my servant, and for the sake of Jerusalem, the city which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel :) because they have forsaken me, and have wor- 33 shipped Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, Chemosh the god of Moab, and Milcom the god of the children of Ammon ; and they have not walked in my ways, doing that which is right in mine eyes, and keeping my statutes and my judgments, as David his father did. Yet I will not 34 take the whole kingdom out of his hand ; but I will establish him as a prince all the days of his life, for the sake of David my servant whom I chose, because he kept my commandments and my statutes. But I will take the kingdom 35 out of the hand of his son, and I will give it unto thee, even the ten tribes. But to his son will I give one 36 tribe ; that David my servant may have a light for ever before me in Jerusalem, the city which I have chosen unto myself to put my name there. And I will take thee, and 37 thou shalt reign over all that thy soul desireth ; for thou shalt be king over Israel. And it shall come to pass, if thou 38 wilt hearken unto all that I command thee, and wilt walk in my ways, and do that which is right in mine eyes, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as David my servant did, that I will be with thee, and build for thee a sure house, as I built for David ; and I will give unto thee Israel.

39 And I will for this afflict the house of David, but not for ever.'"

40 And Solomon sought to put Jeroboam to death. And Jeroboam arose and fled into Egypt, to Shishak the king of Egypt; and he remained in Egypt until the death of Solomon.

41 And the rest of the acts of Solomon, even all that he did, and his wisdom, are they not written in the book of the Acts of Solomon? And the time that Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel was forty years. And Solomon slept with his fathers; and he was buried in the city of David his father; and Rehoboam his son reigned in his stead.

1 CHAP. XII.—And Rehoboam went to Shechem; for unto Shechem were all Israel come to make him king. And it came to pass, when Jeroboam the son of Nebat heard it, (for he was yet in Egypt, whither he had fled from the face of king Solomon, and Jeroboam dwelt in Egypt, but they sent and called him,) that Jeroboam and all the congregation of Israel came and spake unto Rehoboam, saying, "Thy father made our yoke grievous; now therefore do thou lighten the grievous service of thy father, and his heavy yoke which he put upon us, and we will serve thee." And he said unto them, "Depart for three days, and then return unto me." And the people departed. And king Rehoboam consulted the aged men who had stood before Solomon his father whilst he was alive, saying, "How do ye advise that I may answer this people?" And they spake unto him, saying, "If thou wilt this day be a servant unto this people, and serve them, and comply with them, and speak unto them good words, then will they be thy servants for ever." But he forsook the counsel of the aged men which they had given him, and he consulted the young men who had grown up with himself, and who stood before him. And he said unto them, "What do ye advise that we shall answer unto this people who have spoken unto me, saying, 'Lighten the yoke which thy father put upon us?'" And the young men who had grown up with him spake unto him, saying, "Thus shalt thou say unto this people who spake unto thee, saying, 'Thy father made our yoke heavy but do thou lighten our yoke,' thus shalt thou say unto them, 'My little finger is thicker than my father's loins. 11 And now my father laid upon you a heavy yoke, but I will

add to your yoke : my father chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions.' ” And Jeroboam and 12 all the people came to Rehoboam, on the third day, according as the king had spoken, saying, “ Return unto me on the third day.” And the king answered the people 13 harshly, and forsook the counsel of the aged men which they had given him ; and he spake unto them according to 14 the counsel of the young men, saying, “ My father made your yoke heavy, but I will add to your yoke : my father chastised you with whips, but I will chastise you with scorpions.” So the king did not hearken unto the people : but 15 the matter was from Jehovah, that he might establish his word which Jehovah had spoken, by Ahijah the Shilonite, unto Jeroboam the son of Nebat. And all Israel saw that 16 the king had not hearkened unto them ; and the people answered the king, saying, “ What portion have we in David ? yea, we have no inheritance in the son of Jesse. To thy tents, O Israel ! see now to thine own house, O David ! ” And Israel departed unto their tents. But as 17 for the children of Israel who dwelt in the cities of Judah, Rehoboam reigned over them. And king Rehoboam sent 18 Adoram who was over the labour-conscription ; and all Israel stoned him with stones so that he died ; and king Rehoboam made haste to mount his chariot to flee to Jerusalem. Thus Israel revolted from the house of David, *as it is* 19 to this day. And it came to pass when all Israel had heard 20 that Jeroboam was returned, that they sent and called him unto the assembly, and made him king over all Israel ; there were none that followed after the house of David, but the tribe of Judah alone.

And Rehoboam came to Jerusalem. And all the house of 2 Judah, and the tribe of Benjamin, were assembled, an hundred and eighty thousand chosen warriors, to fight against the house of Israel, *and* to recover the kingdom for Rehoboam the son of Solomon. And the word of Jehovah came unto 22 Shemaiah a man of God, saying, “ Speak unto Rehoboam 23 the son of Solomon, king of Judah, and unto all the house of Judah and Benjamin, and the remnant of the people, saying, ‘ Thus saith Jehovah ; Ye shall not go up nor fight 24 against your brethren the children of Israel ; return each man to his house, for this matter is from me.’ ” And they hearkened unto the word of Jehovah, and departed again according to the word of Jehovah.

25 And Jeroboam built Shechem in the mountain of Ephraim, and dwelt therein ; and he removed thence, and built
26 Penuel. And Jeroboam said in his heart, " Now will the
27 kingdom return to the house of David. If this people shall
go up to offer sacrifice in the house of Jehovah in Jerusalem,
then the heart of this people will turn again unto their lord,
even unto Rehoboam king of Judah ; and they will kill me,
28 and return unto Rehoboam king of Judah." And the king
took counsel ; and he made two calves of gold, and said unto
the people, " Ye have gone up to Jerusalem long enough.
Behold thy God, O Israel, who brought thee up out of the
29 land of Egypt ! " And he set the one in Bethel, and the
30 other he placed in Dan. And this thing became a sin ; for
the people went up to worship before the one unto *Bethel*,
31 and before the other unto Dan. And he made temples upon
the high places ; and he made priests of the lowest of the
32 people, who were not of the sons of Levi. And Jeroboam
ordained a feast in the eighth month, on the fifteenth day of
the month, corresponding to the feast which was in Judah ;
and he offered burnt-offerings upon the altar. Thus did he
in Bethel, offering sacrifices unto the calves that he had
made ; and he placed in Bethel the priests of the high
33 places which he had made. And he offered burnt-offerings
upon the altar which he had made in Bethel, upon the
fifteenth day of the eighth month, even in the month which
he had devised out of his own heart : and he ordained a
feast for the children of Israel ; and he offered burnt-offerings
upon the altar, and burned incense.

- 1 CHAP. XIII.—And behold there came a man of God out of Judah unto Bethel, with a message from Jehovah ; and Jeroboam was standing by the altar to burn incense.
- 2 And he cried against the altar by the word of Jehovah, and said, " O altar, altar ! thus saith Jehovah ; ' Behold, a child shall be born unto the house of David, Josiah shall be his name ; and he shall offer upon thee the priests of the high places, who have burnt incense upon thee ; yea, men's bones
3 shall be burnt upon thee.' " And he gave a sign that same day, saying, " This shall be the sign that Jehovah hath spoken : Behold, the altar shall be rent in pieces, and the
4 ashes which are upon it shall be scattered." And it came to pass, when the king heard the word of the man of God, which he had proclaimed against the altar in Bethel, that Jeroboam

stretched out his hand from the altar, saying, "Seize him!" And his hand which he had stretched forth against him dried up, so that he could not draw it back to him again. And 5 the altar was rent, and the ashes were scattered from the altar, according to the sign which the man of God had given, by the command of Jehovah. And the king answered 6 and said unto the man of God, "Intercede, I beseech thee, with Jehovah thy God, and pray for me that my hand may be restored unto me." And the man of God interceded with Jehovah, and the king's hand was restored unto him, and became as it had been before. And the king said unto 7 the man of God, "Come with me into my house, and refresh thyself, and I will bestow upon thee a gift." And the 8 man of God said unto the king, "If thou wouldest give me the half of *all that is in* thy house, I would not go with thee, nor eat bread, nor drink water in this place. For thus 9 it was commanded me by the word of Jehovah, saying, 'Thou shalt neither eat bread, nor drink water; neither shalt thou return by the way by which thou didst go forth.'" So 10 he went another way, and returned not by the way by which he had come to Bethel.

And there was a certain aged prophet dwelling in Bethel; 11 and one of his sons came, and *the people* told him all that the man of God had done that day in Bethel, and the words that he had spoken unto the king; and *his sons* told them unto their father. And their father said unto them, "Which 12 is the way that he went forth?" And his sons showed the way by which the man of God, who had come out of Judah, went forth. And he said unto his sons, "Saddle me the 13 ass;" and they saddled the ass for him; and he rode upon him, and went after the man of God, and found him 14 sitting under the terebinth. And he said unto him, "Art thou the man of God that camest from Judah?" and he said "I am." And he said unto him, "Come with me into my 15 house, and eat bread." And he said unto him, "I cannot 16 return with thee, nor go with thee; neither can I eat bread nor drink water with thee in this place: for it was told unto 17 me by the word of Jehovah, 'Thou shalt not eat bread, nor drink water there; neither shalt thou return by the way by which thou goest thither.'" And he said unto him, "I also 18 am a prophet as well as thou; and an angel spake unto me by the word of Jehovah, saying, 'Bring him back with thee into thy house, that he may eat bread and drink water.'"

19 But he lied unto him. And he returned with him, and did eat bread in his house, and drank water. And it came to pass whilst they were sitting at the table, that the word of Jehovah came unto the prophet who had brought him back : 20 and he cried unto the man of God who had come out of Judah, saying, "Thus saith Jehovah ; Forasmuch as thou hast disobeyed the voice of Jehovah, and hast not kept the commandment which Jehovah thy God commanded thee, 22 but hast turned back, and eaten bread, and drunk water, in the place concerning which he said unto thee, 'Thou shalt neither eat bread nor drink water *there*, thy corpse shall not 23 enter into the sepulchre of thy fathers.' " And it came to pass after he had eaten bread, and after he had drunken, that he saddled the ass for the prophet whom he had brought 24 back. And he went forth, and a lion met him in the way, and killed him ; and his corpse was *lying* cast down in the way, and the ass standing beside it, and the lion also standing beside the corpse. And, behold, men were passing by, and they saw the corpse cast down in the way, and the lion standing beside the corpse ; and they came and told it in the 26 city where the aged prophet dwelt. And the prophet who had brought him back from the way heard it ; and he said, "This is the man of God who disobeyed the voice of Jehovah ; and Jehovah hath given him unto the lion ; and he hath torn him and slain him, according to the word of Jehovah 27 which he spake unto him." And he spake unto his sons, 28 saying, "Saddle me the ass ;" and they saddled him. And he went and found his corpse cast down in the way, and the ass and the lion standing beside the corpse ; the lion had not 29 eaten the corpse nor torn the ass. And the prophet lifted up the corpse of the man of God, and laid it upon the ass, and brought it back, and came into the city of the aged 30 prophet, to mourn for him and to bury him. And he laid his body in his own sepulchre ; and they mourned over him, 31 saying, "Alas, my brother ! " And it came to pass after he had buried him, that he spake unto his sons, saying, "When I am dead, then shall ye bury me in the sepulchre wherein the man of God is buried ; lay my bones beside his bones ; 32 for the saying shall surely come to pass, which he proclaimed by the word of Jehovah, against the altar which is in Bethel, and against all the temples of the high places which are in the cities of Samaria." 33 Even after this, Jeroboam turned not back from his evil

way ; but continued to make the lowest of the people priests of the high places ; whosoever would, he consecrated him, and he became a priest of the high places. And this thing ³⁴ became a sin unto the house of Jeroboam, so as even to cut it off, and destroy it from the face of the earth.

CHAP. XIV.—At that time Abijah the son of Jeroboam ¹ fell sick. And Jeroboam said unto his wife, “ Arise, I pray ² thee, and disguise thyself, so that it may not be known that thou art the wife of Jeroboam ; and go to Shiloh ; behold, Ahijah the prophet is there, who foretold that I should be king over this people. And take in thy hand ten loaves, and ³ some cracknels, and a cruse of honey ; and go unto him ; he will tell thee what will happen unto the lad.” And the ⁴ wife of Jeroboam did so ; and she arose and went to Shiloh, and came to the house of Ahijah. And Ahijah was not able to see, for his eyes were dimmed with age. And Jehovah ⁵ said unto Ahijah, “ Behold, the wife of Jeroboam cometh to inquire of thee concerning her son, for he is sick ; thus and thus shalt thou say unto her ; for it shall come to pass that when she cometh, she will feign herself to be a stranger.” And it came to pass, that whilst Ahijah was listening for the ⁶ sound of her feet, she came in by the door. And he said “ Come in, thou wife of Jeroboam ! Why feignest thou thyself to be a stranger ? Yet I am sent unto thee with heavy tidings. Go, tell Jeroboam, ‘ Thus saith Jehovah the God ⁷ of Israel, Whereas I raised thee up from the midst of the people, and set thee as prince over my people Israel, and rent away the kingdom from the house of David, and gave ⁸ it unto thee, and yet thou hast not been as my servant David, who kept my commandments, and who walked after me with all his heart, doing only that which was right in mine eyes, but hast done worse than all that were before ⁹ thee ; (for thou hast gone and made unto thyself other gods, and molten images, to provoke me to anger, and hast cast me behind thy back;) therefore, behold, I will bring evil upon ¹⁰ the house of Jeroboam ; and I will cut off from Jeroboam every male of *his offspring*, young child and grown man in Israel ; and I will sweep away the house of Jeroboam as men sweep away dung, until it be completely gone. Him that ¹¹ dieth of Jeroboam in the city, the dogs shall eat ; and him that dieth in the field, the birds of the air shall eat ; for Jehovah hath spoken it !’ But as for thee, arise, get thee to ¹²

thine house ; for as thy feet enter into the city, the child
13 shall die. And all Israel shall mourn for him, and shall
bury him ; for he only of Jeroboam shall be placed in a
sepulchre, because in him *alone* of the house of Jeroboam was
found anything good toward Jehovah the God of Israel.
14 And Jehovah shall raise up unto himself a king over Israel,
who shall cut off the house of Jeroboam, this very day ; yea,
15 even now. And Jehovah shall smite Israel as a reed is shaken
in water ; and he shall root out Israel from the good land
which he gave unto their fathers, and shall scatter them beyond
the river, because they made their standing pillars, provoking
16 Jehovah to anger. And he shall cast off Israel, because of
the sins of Jeroboam, which he committed, and which he caused
17 Israel to commit." And the wife of Jeroboam arose, and
went forth, and came to Tirzah ; and as she came to the
18 threshold of the house, the child died. And all Israel buried
him, and mourned for him, according to the word of Jehovah,
which he had spoken by his servant Ahijah the prophet.
19 And the rest of the acts of Jeroboam, how he waged war,
and how he reigned, behold they are written in the book of
20 the Annals of the Kings of Israel. And the time that Jero-
boam reigned was two and twenty years. And he slept with
his fathers ; and Nadab his son reigned in his stead.

21 And Rehoboam the son of Solomon reigned over Judah.
Rehoboam was forty and one years old when he began to
reign ; and he reigned seventeen years in Jerusalem, the
city which Jehovah had chosen out of all the tribes of Is-
rael, to put his name there : and the name of his mother was
22 Naamah the Ammonitess. And Judah did that which was
evil in the sight of Jehovah ; and they provoked him to
jealousy by their sins which they committed, above all that
23 their fathers had done. For they also built unto themselves
high places, and *set up* molten idols, and standing pillars,
24 upon every lofty height, and under every green tree. And
there were also Sodomites in the land. They did according
to all the abominations of the nations which Jehovah had
cast out before the face of the children of Israel.
25 And it came to pass in the fifth year of king Rehoboam,
26 that Shishak king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem. And
he took away the treasures of the house of Jehovah, and the
treasures of the king's house ; yea he took all away : and he
took away all the shields of gold which Solomon had made.

And king Rehoboam made instead of them shields of brass ; 27
and he committed them to the captains of the guards, who kept
the door of the king's house. And it came to pass, that when- 28
ever the king went into the house of Jehovah, the guards
bare them : and they brought them back into the guard-room.

And the rest of the acts of Rehoboam, and all that he did, 29
are they not written in the book of the Annals of the
Kings of Judah ? And there was war between Rehoboam 30
and Jeroboam continually. And Rehoboam slept with his 31
fathers ; and he was buried with his fathers in the city of
David. And the name of his mother was Naamah the Am-
monitess. And Abijam his son reigned in his stead.

CHAP. XV.—And in the eighteenth year of king Jero- 1
beam the son of Nebat, Abijam began to reign over Judah.
Three years he reigned in Jerusalem ; and his mother's 2
name was Michaiah, the daughter of Uriel. And he walked 3
in all the sins of his father which he had done before
him ; and his heart was not devoted to Jehovah his God, like
the heart of David his father. Nevertheless for David's 4
sake, Jehovah his God gave unto him a lamp in Jerusalem,
by setting up his son after him, and by establishing Jerusa-
lem ; because David had done that which was right in the 5
eyes of Jehovah, and had not departed from all that he com-
manded him, all the days of his life, save in the matter of
Uriah the Hittite. And there was war between Abijam the 6
son of Rehoboam, and Jeroboam, all the days of his life.

And the rest of the acts of Abijam, and all that he did, 7
are they not written in the book of the Annals of the
Kings of Judah ? And there was war between Abijam and 8
Jeroboam. And Abijam slept with his fathers, and they
buried him in the city of David : and his son Asa reigned
in his stead.

And in the twentieth year of Jeroboam king of Israel, 9
Asa began to reign over Judah. And he reigned forty and 10
one years in Jerusalem : and his mother's name was
Maachah, the daughter of Abishalom. And Asa did that 11
which was right in the sight of Jehovah, as David his father
had done. For he caused the Sodomites to depart from the 12
land, and removed all the idols which his fathers had made.
And even his mother Maachah he deposed from being queen, 13
because she had made an idol of Ashera ; and Asa cut down

14 her idol, and burnt it in the vale of Kidron. But the high places were not removed; nevertheless the heart of Asa
15 was devoted to Jehovah all his days. And he restored the things which his father had consecrated, even the consecrated things of the house of Jehovah, silver, and gold, and furniture.

16 And there was war between Asa and Baasha king of
17 Israel, all their days. And Baasha king of Israel went up against Judah, and built Ramah, that he might hinder
18 any one from going or coming to Asa king of Judah. And Asa took all the silver and gold that were left in the treasuries of the house of Jehovah, and in the treasuries of the king's house, and gave them into the hand of his servants; and king Asa sent them to Ben-hadad the son of Tabrimmon the son of Hesion, king of Syria, who dwelt in
19 Damascus, saying, "Let there be a league between me and thee, as there was between my father and thy father. Behold, I have sent unto thee a present of silver and gold; come, break thy league with Baasha king of Israel, that he
20 may depart from me." And Ben-hadad hearkened unto king Asa; and he sent the captains of the hosts which he had, against the cities of Israel; and he smote Ijon, and Dan, and Abel-beth-maachah, and all Chinneroth, with all the
21 land of Naphtali. And it came to pass when Baasha heard it, that he ceased from building Ramah, and dwelt in Tirzah.
22 And king Asa proclaimed a *levy* throughout all Judah; none was exempted; and they carried away the stones of Ramah, and its timbers, with which Baasha had been building; and with them king Asa built Geba of Benjamin, and Mizpah.

23 And the rest of all the acts of Asa, and all his greatness, and all that he did, and the cities that he built, are they not written in the book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah? Nevertheless, in the time of his old age he was diseased in
24 his feet. And Asa slept with his fathers, and they buried him with his fathers, in the city of David his father: and Jehoshaphat his son reigned in his stead.

25 And Nadab the son of Jeroboam began to reign over Israel in the second year of Asa king of Judah: and he reigned
26 over Israel two years. And he did that which was evil in the sight of Jehovah, and walked in the way of his father,
27 and in his sin by which he caused Israel to sin. And

Baasha the son of Ahijah, of the house of Issachar, conspired against him; and Baasha smote him at Gibbethon which belonged to the Philistines; for Nadab and all Israel had laid siege to Gibbethon. And Baasha slew him, in the 28 third year of Asa king of Judah; and reigned in his stead. And it came to pass, that when he became king, he smote all 29 the house of Jeroboam; he left not to Jeroboam any that breathed, until he had destroyed him, according to the word of Jehovah, which he spake by his servant Ahijah the Shilohite; on account of the sins of Jeroboam which he committed, 30 and which he caused Israel to commit, in his provocation wherewith he provoked Jehovah the God of Israel to anger.

And the rest of the acts of Nadab, and all that he did, are 31 they not written in the book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel? And there was war between Asa and Baasha king 32 of Israel, all their days.

In the third year of Asa king of Judah, Baasha the son of 33 Ahijah began to reign over all Israel; *and he reigned* in Tirzah twenty-four years. And he did that which was evil 34 in the sight of Jehovah; and walked in the way of Jeroboam, and in his sin which he caused Israel to commit.

CHAP. XVI.—And the word of Jehovah came to Jehu 1 the son of Hanani, against Baasha, saying, “Whereas I 2 raised thee up from the dust, and set thee as prince over my people Israel, and thou hast walked in the ways of Jeroboam, and hast caused my people Israel to sin, provoking me to anger by their sin, behold, I will consume the posterity of 3 Baasha, and the posterity of his house; and I will make thy house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat. Him 4 that dieth of Baasha in the city, the dogs shall eat; and him that dieth of him in the field, the birds of the air shall eat.”

And the rest of the acts of Baasha, and what he did, and 5 his greatness, are they not written in the book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel? And Baasha slept with his fathers, 6 and was buried in Tirzah; and Elah his son reigned in his stead. And also by Jehu the prophet, the son of Hanani, 7 the word of Jehovah came against Baasha, and against his house; both on account of all the evil that he did in the eyes of Jehovah, provoking him to anger by the work of his hands, so that he became even as the house of Jeroboam; and because he had smitten him.

8 In the twenty-sixth year of Asa king of Judah, Elah the son of Baasha began to reign over Israel; *and he reigned* in 9 Tirzah two years. And his servant Zimri, captain over the half of his chariots, conspired against him; and he was in Tirzah, drinking himself drunk in the house of Arza the 10 steward of his house in Tirzah. And Zimri came in and smote him, and slew him, in the twenty-seventh year of Asa 11 king of Judah, and reigned in his stead. And it came to pass, when he became king and sat upon his throne, that he smote all the house of Baasha; he left not one male, 12 of his kindred or of his friends. And Zimri utterly destroyed the whole house of Baasha, according to the word of Jehovah, which he had spoken unto Baasha by Jehu the 13 prophet; on account of all the sins of Baasha, and the sins of Elah his son, which they committed, and which they caused Israel to commit; provoking Jehovah the God of Israel to anger by their vanities.

14 And the rest of the acts of Elah, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel?

15 In the twenty-seventh year of Asa king of Judah, Zimri began to reign; *and he reigned* seven days in Tirzah. And the people were encamped against Gibbethon, which belonged 16 to the Philistines. And the people that were encamped heard that Zimri had conspired, and that he had also slain the king; and all Israel made Omri, the captain of the host, 17 king over Israel that day in the camp. And Omri went up from Gibbethon, and all Israel with him, and they laid siege 18 to Tirzah. And it came to pass, when Zimri saw that the city was taken, that he went into the citadel of the king's house, and burnt the king's house over him with fire, and 19 died; for the sins which he committed, in doing evil in the sight of Jehovah, by walking in the way of Jeroboam, and in his sin which he did, causing Israel to sin.

20 Now the rest of the acts of Zimri, and his treason which he committed, are they not written in the book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel?

21 Then the people of Israel were divided into two parts; half the people followed Tibni the son of Ginath, to make 22 him king, and half followed Omri: but the people that followed Omri prevailed against the people that followed Tibni the son of Ginath; so Tibni died, and Omri became king.

In the thirty-first year of Asa king of Judah, Omri began ²³ to reign over Israel; *and he reigned* twelve years. Six years he reigned in Tirzah; and he bought the hill of Samaria ²⁴ from Shemer, for two talents of silver; and he built on the hill, and called the name of the city which he built, Samaria, after the name of Shemer, the owner of the hill. And ²⁵ Omri did that which was evil in the sight of Jehovah; yea he did worse than all that were before him; for he walked in ²⁶ all the way of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and in his sin which he caused Israel to commit, provoking Jehovah the God of Israel to anger by their vanities.

And the rest of the acts of Omri which he did, and his ²⁷ might which he shewed, are they not written in the book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel? And Omri slept with ²⁸ his fathers, and was buried in Samaria; and Ahab his son reigned in his stead.

And in the thirty-eighth year of Asa king of Judah, Ahab ²⁹ the son of Omri began to reign over Israel: and Ahab the son of Omri reigned over Israel in Samaria twenty-two years. And Ahab the son of Omri did that which was evil in the ³⁰ sight of Jehovah, more than all that were before him. And ³¹ it came to pass, as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he took to wife Jezebel the daughter of Eth-baal king of the Zidonians, and went and served Baal, and worshipped him. And ³² he erected an altar unto Baal, in the house of Baal, which he built in Samaria. And Ahab made an image of Ashera. ³³ And Ahab did more to provoke Jehovah the God of Israel to anger, than all the kings of Israel that were before him.

In his days Hiel the Bethelite rebuilt Jericho; in Abiram ³⁴ his first-born he laid its foundations, and in Segub his youngest son he set up its gates, according to the word of Jehovah, which he spake by Joshua the son of Nun.

CHAP. XVII.—And Elijah the Tishbite, who was one of ¹ the sojourners in Gilead, said unto Ahab, “As Jehovah the ² God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall neither be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.” And the word of Jehovah came unto him, saying, “Depart ³ hence, and turn thee eastward; and hide thyself by the brook Cherith, which is in front of the Jordan: and it shall be, ⁴ that thou shalt drink of the brook; and I have commanded

5 the ravens to feed thee there." And he went and did according to the word of Jehovah; for he went and dwelt by the 6 brook Cherith, which is in front of the Jordan. And the ravens brought him bread and flesh in the morning, and bread and flesh in the evening; and he drank of the brook. 7 And it came to pass, after a while, that the brook dried up, 8 because there had been no rain in the land. And the 9 word of Jehovah came unto him, saying, "Arise, get thee to Zarephath, which belongeth to Zidon, and dwell there; behold, I have commanded a widow woman there to sus- 10 tain thee." And he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, a widow woman was there gathering sticks: and he called unto her and said, "Fetch me, I pray thee, a little water in a vessel, that 11 I may drink." And as she was going to fetch it, he called unto her, and said, "Bring me, I pray thee, a morsel of 12 bread in thine hand." And she said, "As Jehovah thy God liveth, I have not a cake, but a handful of meal in a pitcher, and a little oil in a cruse; and behold I am gathering two or three sticks, that I may go in and dress it for me and my 13 son, that we may eat it, and die." And Elijah said unto her, "Fear not; go and do as thou hast said: but make me thereof a little cake first, and bring it unto me; and after- 14 wards make for thee and for thy son. For thus saith Jehovah the God of Israel; 'The pitcher of meal shall not fail, and the cruse of oil shall not waste, until the day that Je- 15 hovah sendeth rain upon the earth.'" And she went and did according to the word of Elijah; and she, and he, and her 16 house, did eat *many* days. The pitcher of meal failed not, neither did the cruse of oil waste; according to the word of Jehovah, which he spake by Elijah.

17 And it came to pass after these things, that the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, fell sick; and his sickness was so sore that there was no breath left in him. And she said unto Elijah, "What have I to do with thee, O thou man of God? Art thou come to me to call my sin to remem- 18 brance, and to slay my son?" And he said unto her, "Give me thy son." And he took him out of her bosom, and carried him up into the upper chamber where he abode, and 20 laid him upon his own bed. And he cried unto Jehovah, and said, "O Jehovah my God, hast thou also brought evil upon 21 the widow with whom I sojourn, by slaying her son?" And he stretched himself upon the child three times, and cried

unto Jehovah, and said, "O Jehovah my God, I pray thee let this child's life come into him again." And Jehovah 22 heard the voice of Elijah; and the child's life came into him again, and he revived. And Elijah took the child, and 23 brought him down out of the upper chamber into the house, and delivered him unto his mother: and Elijah said, "See, thy son liveth." And the woman said unto Elijah, "Now I 24 know that thou art a man of God, and that the word of Jehovah is in thy mouth of a truth."

CHAP. XVIII.—And it came to pass after many days, 1 that the word of Jehovah came to Elijah in the third year, saying, "Go, shew thyself unto Ahab, and I will send rain upon the earth." And Elijah went to shew himself unto 2 Ahab. And the famine was sore in Samaria. And Ahab 3 called Obadiah who was over his household. (Now Obadiah feared Jehovah greatly: and it came to pass, that when Jezebel cut off the prophets of Jehovah, Obadiah took an hundred prophets, and hid them by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water.) And Ahab said unto Obadiah, "Go into 5 the land, unto all the fountains of water, and unto all the brooks; peradventure we may find grass to save the horses and the mules alive, that we lose not all the beasts." So 6 they divided the land between them to pass throughout it: Ahab went one way by himself, and Obadiah went another way by himself. And as Obadiah was in the way, behold, 7 Elijah met him; and he knew him, and fell on his face and said, "Art thou my lord Elijah?" And he said unto him, 8 "I am. Go, tell thy lord, 'Behold, Elijah is here.' " And 9 he said "What have I sinned, that thou wouldest deliver thy servant into the hand of Ahab, to cause me to be put to death? As Jehovah thy God liveth, there is no nation or kingdom to which my lord hath not sent to seek thee; and when they said 'He is not here,' he caused that kingdom or nation to swear that they had not found thee: and now thou sayest, 11 'Go tell thy lord, Behold, Elijah is here.' And it shall come 12 to pass, that as soon as I am gone from thee, the spirit of Jehovah will carry thee, I know not whither; and when I come and tell Ahab, and he cannot find thee, he will slay me: though thy servant hath feared Jehovah from his youth. Was it not told unto my lord what I did when Jezebel slew 13 the prophets of Jehovah? how I hid an hundred men of the prophets of Jehovah by fifty in a cave, and fed them with

14 bread and water? And now thou sayest 'Go tell thy lord,
15 Behold, Elijah is here,' that he may slay me!" And Elijah said, "As Jehovah of hosts liveth, before whom I stand, I
16 will surely shew myself unto him this day." So Obadiah went to meet Ahab, and told him; and Ahab went to meet
17 Elijah. And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, "Art thou he that troubleth Israel?"
18 And he said, "I have not troubled Israel, but thou and thy father's house; in that ye have forsaken the commandments
19 of Jehovah, and that thou hast resorted unto the images of Baal. Now therefore send, and gather unto me all Israel to Mount Carmel, and the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal, and the four hundred prophets of Ashera, who eat at
20 Jezebel's table." So Ahab sent unto all the children of Israel, and gathered the prophets together unto Mount Carmel.
21 And Elijah drew nigh unto all the people, and said, "How long do ye limp between two opinions? If Jehovah be God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him." And the people
22 answered him not a word. And Elijah said unto the people, "I, even I only, remain, a prophet of Jehovah; but the
23 prophets of Baal are four hundred and fifty men. Let them therefore give us two bullocks; and let them choose one bullock for themselves, and cut it in pieces, and lay it on wood, and put no fire *under it*; and I will prepare the other bul-
24 lock, and lay it on wood, and put no fire *under it*: and ye shall call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of Jehovah; and the God that answereth by fire, let him be God." And all the people answered and said, "It
25 is well spoken." And Elijah said unto the prophets of Baal, "Choose you one bullock for yourselves, and prepare it first, for ye are many; and call on the name of your god; but
26 put no fire *under it*." And they took the bullock which was given them, and they prepared it, and called on the name of Baal from morning even until noon, saying, "O Baal, answer us!" But there was no voice, nor any that answered. And
27 they danced beside the altar which they had made. And it came to pass at noon, that Elijah mocked them, and said, "Cry with a loud voice, for he is a god! Either he is talking, or he has stepped aside, or he is on a journey, or peradventure
28 he is asleep, and must be awakened!" And they cried with a loud voice, and cut themselves after their manner, with knives and lancets, till their blood gushed out upon them.
29 And it came to pass, when mid-day was past, that they pro-

phesied until the time of the *evening* sacrifice ; but there was neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded.

And Elijah said unto all the people, "Come near unto me." And all the people came near unto him. And he repaired the altar of Jehovah which was broken down. And Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, unto whom the word of Jehovah came, saying, "Israel shall be thy name;" and with the stones he built an altar, in the name of Jehovah. And he made a trench about the altar, as large as would contain two measures of seed. And he put the wood in order, and cut the bullock in pieces, and laid him on the wood ; and said, "Fill four pitchers with water, and pour it on the burnt-offering, and on the wood :" *And they did so.* And he said "Do it the second time." And they did it the second time. And he said, "Do it the third time." And they did it the third time. And the water ran round about the altar ; and the trench also was filled with water. And it came to pass, at the time of the offering of the *evening* sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, "O Jehovah, God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that thou art God in Israel, and that I am thy servant, and that I have done all these things at thy word. Answer me, O Jehovah, answer me ! that this people may know that thou, O Jehovah, art God ; and that thou mayest turn their heart back *unto thyself again.*" Then the fire of Jehovah fell, and consumed the burnt-offering, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench. And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces, and said, "Jehovah, he is God ! Jehovah, he is God !" And Elijah said unto them, "Seize the prophets of Baal ; let not one of them escape." And they seized them : and Elijah brought them down to the brook Kishon, and slew them there.

And Elijah said unto Ahab, "Go up, eat and drink : for there is a sound of abundance of rain." So Ahab went up to eat and to drink. And Elijah went up to the top of Carmel ; and he cast himself down upon the earth, and put his face between his knees, and said to his servant, "Go up now, look toward the sea." And he went up and looked, and said, "There is nothing." And he said "Go again ;" *and thus he did* seven times. And it came to pass at the seventh time that he said, "Behold, there ariseth a little cloud out of the sea, like a man's hand." And he said, "Go

up and say unto Ahab, ‘Prepare thy chariot, and get thee down, that the rain stop thee not.’” And it came to pass in the mean while, that the heaven was black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain. And Ahab rode, and 46 went to Jezreel. And the hand of Jehovah was on Elijah ; and he girded up his loins, and ran before Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.

1 CHAP. XIX.—And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had slain all the prophets with the 2 sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger unto Elijah, saying, “ So let the gods do *unto me*, and more also, if I make not thy life as the life of one of them, by tomorrow at this time.” 3 And when he saw *that*, he arose and fled for his life, and came to Beersheba which belongeth to Judah ; and he left 4 his servant there. And he himself went a day’s journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a shrub of broom, and earnestly entreated that he might die. And he said, “ It is enough ! Now, O Jehovah, take away my life, 5 for I am not better than my fathers.” And as he lay and slept under a shrub of broom, behold, an angel touched him, 6 and said unto him, “ Arise and eat.” And he looked, and, behold, there was a cake baked upon the coals, and a cruse of water at his head. And he did eat and drink ; and laid 7 himself down again. And the angel of Jehovah came again the second time, and touched him, and said, “ Arise and eat, 8 because the journey is too great for thee.” And he arose, and did eat and drink ; and he went, in the strength of that meat, forty days and forty nights, unto Horeb, the mount of 9 God. And there he entered into a cave, and lodged therein. And, behold, the word of Jehovah came to him, and said unto 10 him, “ What dost thou here, Elijah ? ” And he said, “ I have been very zealous for Jehovah the God of hosts : for the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword : and I, even I only, am left ; and they seek my life to take it away.” 11 And he said, “ Come forth, and stand upon the mount before Jehovah, for, behold, Jehovah passeth by.” And a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before Jehovah ; but Jehovah was not in the wind : and after the wind an earthquake ; but Jehovah was not in the earthquake : and after the earthquake a fire ; but Jehovah was not in the fire : and after the fire a still small voice. And

it came to pass when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went out, and stood in the entrance to the cave. And behold, *there came* a voice unto him, and said, "What dost thou here, Elijah?" And he said, "I have 14 been very zealous for Jehovah the God of hosts: because the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword: and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life to take it away." And Jehovah said unto him, "Go, return on thy way to the 15 wilderness of Damascus: and when thou art come, anoint Hazael to be king over Syria; and Jehu the son of Nimshi 16 shalt thou anoint to be king over Israel; and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah shalt thou anoint to be prophet in thy room. And it shall come to pass, that him that escapeth 17 the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall slay; and him that escapeth from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall slay. And I have left 18 unto me seven thousand in Israel, none of whose knees have bowed unto Baal, and whose mouths have not kissed him."

And he departed thence, and found Elisha the son of 19 Shaphat, who was ploughing with twelve yoke of oxen before him, and he with the twelfth: and Elijah passed by him, and cast his mantle upon him. And he left the oxen, and ran 20 after Elijah, and said, "Let me, I pray thee, kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow thee." And he said unto him, "Go back again, for what have I done unto thee?" And he returned back from him, and took the yoke 21 of oxen and slew them, and boiled their flesh with the ox-gear, and gave unto the people, and they did eat. And he arose, and went after Elijah, and ministered unto him.

CHAP. XX.—And Ben-hadad the king of Syria gathered 1 all his host together; and there were thirty-two kings with him, and horses and chariots; and he went up and besieged Samaria, and warred against it. And he sent messengers 2 to Ahab king of Israel into the city, and said unto him, "Thus saith Ben-hadad: 'Thy silver and thy gold are mine; 3 thy wives also and thy children, even the goodliest of them, are mine.'" And the king of Israel answered and said, "My 4 lord, O king, it is even according to thy word; I am thine, and all that I have." And the messengers came again, and 5 said, "Thus saith Ben-hadad; Although I have sent unto thee, saying, 'Thou shalt deliver unto me thy silver, and thy gold, and thy wives, and thy children,' yet I will send my 6

servants unto thee tomorrow at this time, and they shall search thine house, and the houses of thy servants ; and it shall come to pass, that whatsoever is pleasant in thine eyes,
7 they shall take it in their hand, and carry it away.” And the king of Israel called all the elders of the land, and said, “Mark, I pray you, and see how this man seeketh *my* destruction : for he sent unto me for my wives, and for my children, and for my silver, and for my gold ; and I withheld
8 them not from him.” And all the elders and all the people said unto him, “Hearken not *unto him*, nor consent.” So
9 he said unto the messengers of Ben-hadad, “Say unto my lord the king, ‘All that thou didst demand of thy servant first, I will do : but this thing I may not do.’” And the mes-
10 sengers departed, and brought him the answer back. And Ben-hadad sent unto him, and said, “So may the gods do unto me, and more also, if the dust of Samaria will suffice for hand-
11 fuls for all the people that follow me.” And the king of Is-
rael answered and said, “Say *unto him*, ‘Let not him that girdeth on his armour, boast himself as he that putteth it
12 off.’” And it came to pass when *Ben-hadad* heard this mes-
sage, as he was drinking, he and the kings in the pavilions,
13 that he said unto his servants, “Set the *host* in array.” And they set *them* in array against the city. And behold there came a prophet unto Ahab king of Israel, saying, “Thus saith Jehovah, ‘Hast thou seen all this great multitude ? Be-
hold, I will deliver it into thy hand this day, and thou shalt know that I am Jehovah.’” And Ahab said, “By whom ?”
14 And he said, “Thus saith Jehovah, ‘Even by the young men of the princes of the provinces.’” Then he said, “Who
15 shall begin the battle ?” And he said, “Thou.” Then he numbered the young men of the princes of the provinces ; and they were two hundred and thirty-two : and after them he numbered all the people, even all the children of Israel,
16 being seven thousand. And they went out at noon. But Ben-hadad was drinking himself drunk, in the pavilions, he and the kings, *even* the thirty-two kings that helped him.
17 And the young men of the princes of the provinces went out first. Now Ben-hadad had sent out *scouts* ; and they told
18 him saying “There are men come out of Samaria.” And he said, “Whether they be come out for peace, take them alive,
19 or whether they be come out for war, take them alive.” So these young men of the princes of the provinces came
20 out of the city, and the army which followed them. And

they slew every one his man : and the Syrians fled, and Israel pursued them : and Ben-hadad the king of Syria escaped on a horse, with his horsemen. And the king of Israel went 21 out, and smote the horses and chariots, and slew the Syrians with a great slaughter.

And the prophet came to the king of Israel, and said 22 unto him, "Up and be active, and consider, and see what thou oughtest to do ; for at the return of the year the king of Syria will come against thee." And the servants of the 23 king of Syria said unto him, "Their God is the God of the hills ; therefore they were stronger than we : but let us fight against them in the plain, *and see if we be not stronger than they.*" But do this thing : Take the kings away, every man 24 out of his place, and put captains in their room ; and 25 muster thee an army, like the army which thou hast lost, horse for horse, and chariot for chariot : and we will fight against them in the plain, *and see if we be not stronger than they.*" And he hearkened unto their voice, and did so. And it came to pass at the return of the year, that Ben- 26 hadad mustered the Syrians, and went up to Aphek to fight against Israel. And the children of Israel were mustered, 27 and supplied with provisions, and marched against them. And the children of Israel encamped before them like two or three little flocks of kids : but the Syrians filled the land. And there came a man of God and spake unto the king of 28 Israel, and said, "Thus saith Jehovah : 'Because the Syrians have said, Jehovah is the God of the hills but not the God of the valleys, therefore I will deliver all this great multitude into thine hand, that ye may know that I am Jehovah.'" And they encamped over against each other seven 29 days : and it came to pass, that, on the seventh day they engaged in close battle ; and the children of Israel slew of the Syrians an hundred thousand footmen in one day. And 30 they that were left fled to Aphek, into the city ; and a wall fell upon twenty-seven thousand of the men that were left. And Ben-hadad fled, and came into the city, into an inner chamber.

And his servants said unto him, "Behold now we have 31 heard that the kings of the house of Israel are merciful kings : let us, we pray thee, put sackcloth on our loins, and halters about our necks, and go out to the king of Israel : peradventure he will spare thy life." So they girded sack- 32 cloth on their loins, and put halters on their necks, and came

to the king of Israel, and said, "Thy servant Ben-hadad saith, 'I pray thee spare my life.'" And he said, "Is 33 he yet alive? He is my brother!" And the men took it for an omen; and they made haste to get it declared if this were his intent; and they said, "Is Ben-hadad thy brother?" And he said, "Go, bring him hither." Then Ben-hadad came forth unto him; and he took him up into 34 his chariot. Then *Ben-hadad* said unto him, "The cities which my father took from thy father, I will restore; and thou shalt make for thyself open spaces in Damascus, as my father did in Samaria." "Then," said *Ahab*, "I will release thee upon this covenant." So he made a covenant with him, and released him.

35 And a certain man of the sons of the prophets said unto one of his neighbours, by the word of Jehovah, "Smite me, 36 I pray thee." And the man refused to smite him. Then said he unto him, "Because thou hast not obeyed the voice of Jehovah, behold, as soon as thou art departed from me, a lion shall slay thee." And as soon as he was departed from 37 him, a lion met him, and slew him. Then he met another man, and said, "Smite me, I pray thee." And the man 38 smote him severely, and wounded him. And the prophet departed, and waited for the king in the way, and disguised 39 himself with a bandage over his eyes. And as the king passed by, he cried unto the king and said, "Thy servant went out into the midst of the battle; and, behold, a man stepped aside, and brought a man unto me, and said, 'Keep this man; and if by any means he be missing, then shall thy life be for his life, or else thou shalt pay a talent of 40 silver.' And as thy servant was busy here and there, he was gone." And the king of Israel said unto him, "Even so 41 shall thy sentence be: thyself hast pronounced it." And he made haste, and took the bandage from over his eyes; and the king of Israel discerned him that he was one of the 42 prophets. And he said unto him: "Thus saith Jehovah; 'Because thou hast let go out of thy hand a man whom I appointed to utter destruction, therefore thy life shall go for 43 his life, and thy people for his people.'" And the king of Israel went to his house heavy and displeased; and he came to Samaria.

1 CHAP. XXI.—And it came to pass after these things, that *Neboth* the Jezreelite had a vineyard, which was in

Jezreel, hard by the palace of Ahab king of Samaria. And ² Ahab spake unto Naboth, saying, "Give me thy vineyard that I may have it for a garden of herbs, because it is near unto my house; and I will give thee for it a better vineyard than it; or if it seem good in thine eyes, I will give thee the worth of it in money." And Naboth said unto ³ Ahab, "Jehovah forbid that I should give the inheritance of my fathers unto thee." And Ahab came into his house, ⁴ heavy and displeased, because of the word which Naboth the Jezreelite had spoken unto him; for he had said, "I will not give unto thee the inheritance of my fathers." And he laid him down upon his bed, and turned away his face, and would eat no bread. And Jezebel his wife came to him, and said ⁵ unto him, "Why is thy spirit so sad that thou eatest no bread?" And he said unto her, "Because I spake unto ⁶ Naboth the Jezreelite, and said unto him, 'Give me thy vineyard for money, or else, if it please thee, I will give thee another vineyard for it;'" and he said, 'I will not give thee my vineyard.'" And Jezebel his wife said unto him, "Dost ⁷ thou now bear the rule over Israel? Arise *and* eat bread, and let thine heart be merry: I will give thee the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite." So she wrote letters in Ahab's name, ⁸ and sealed them with his seal, and sent the letters unto the elders and the nobles that were in his city, dwelling with Naboth. And she wrote in the letters, saying, "Proclaim a ⁹ fast, and set Naboth on high among the people; and set up ¹⁰ two vile men before him, to bear witness against him, saying, 'Thou didst blaspheme God and the king:' and then carry him out, and stone him that he may die." And the men ¹¹ of his city, even the elders and the nobles who dwelt in his city, did as Jezebel had sent unto them, *and* as it was written in the letters which she had sent unto them. They ¹² proclaimed a fast, and set Naboth on high among the people. And there came in two vile men and sat before him; and ¹³ the vile men witnessed against him, even against Naboth, in the presence of the people, saying, "Naboth did blaspheme God and the king." Then they carried him forth out of the city, and stoned him with stones, that he died. Then ¹⁴ they sent word to Jezebel, saying, "Naboth is stoned, and is dead." And it came to pass, when Jezebel heard that Naboth was stoned, and was dead, that Jezebel said to Ahab, "Arise, take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, which he refused to give unto thee for money: for

16 Naboth is not alive, but dead." And it came to pass, when Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, that Ahab rose up to go down to the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, to take possession of it. And the word of Jehovah came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying, " Arise, go down to meet Ahab king of Israel, who is in Samaria: behold, he is in the vineyard of Naboth, to which he is gone down to take possession of it. 17 And thou shalt speak unto him, saying, ' Thus saith Jehovah ; Hast thou killed, and also taken possession ? ' And thou shalt speak unto him, saying, ' Thus saith Jehovah ; In the place where the dogs licked the blood of Naboth, shall dogs lick 18 thy blood, even thine.' " And Ahab said to Elijah, " Hast thou found me, O mine enemy ? " And he said, " I have found thee. Because thou hast sold thyself to work that 19 which is evil in the sight of Jehovah, behold, I will bring evil upon thee ; and I will utterly consume thy posterity ; yea I will cut off from Ahab every male of his offspring, 20 young child and grown man in Israel ; and I will make thy house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah, because of the provocation wherewith thou hast provoked *me* to 21 anger, and made Israel to sin." And of Jezebel also Jehovah spake, saying, " The dogs shall eat Jezebel in the 22 ditch of Jezreel. Him that dieth of Ahab in the city, the dogs shall eat ; and him that dieth in the field, the birds of the air shall eat. Surely there hath been none like 23 unto Ahab, who hath sold himself to do that which is evil in the sight of Jehovah, to whatsoever his wife Jezebel hath urged him on. And he hath done very abominably, in following idols, according to all that the Amorites did, whom Jehovah 24 cast out before the children of Israel." And it came to pass, when Ahab heard those words, that he rent his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his flesh, and fasted, and lay in sackcloth, 25 and walked slowly *in sadness*. And the word of Jehovah came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying, " Seest thou how Ahab hath humbled himself before me ? Because he hath humbled himself before me, I will not bring the evil in his days : but in his son's days, I will bring the evil upon his 26 house."

1 CHAP. XXII.—And they continued *at peace* three years :
2 there was no war between Syria and Israel. And it came to pass in the third year, that Jehoshaphat the king of

Judah came down to the king of Israel. And the king of Israel had said unto his servants, "Know ye that Ramoth in Gilead is ours, and we remain quiet, and take it not out of the hand of the king of Syria?" And he said unto Jehoshaphat, "Wilt thou go with me to battle, to Ramoth-gilead?" And Jehoshaphat said unto the king of Israel, "I am even as thyself: my people are as thy people, and my horses as thy horses." And Jehoshaphat said unto the king of Israel, "Enquire, I pray thee, this day, the word of Jehovah." And the king of Israel gathered the prophets together, about four hundred men, and said unto them, "Shall I go against Ramoth-gilead to battle, or shall I forbear?" And they said, "Go up; for the Lord will deliver it into the hand of the king." And Jehoshaphat said, "Is there not here a prophet of Jehovah besides, that we may enquire of him?" And the king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, "There is yet one man, by whom we may enquire of Jehovah: but I hate him; for he doth not prophesy good concerning me, but evil: Micaiah the son of Imlah." And Jehoshaphat said, "Let not the king say so." Then the king of Israel called an officer and said, "Hasten hither Micaiah the son of Imlah." And the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah sat each on his throne, having put on their robes, in the open space at the entrance of the gate of Samaria; and all the prophets prophesied before them. And Zedekiah the son of Chenanah made unto himself horns of iron; and he said, "Thus saith Jehovah: 'With these shalt thou gore the Syrians, until thou have destroyed them utterly.'" And all the prophets prophesied in like manner, saying, "Go up to Ramoth-gilead and prosper: for Jehovah will deliver it into the king's hand." And the messenger that was gone to call Micaiah spake unto him, saying, "Behold now, the words of the prophets declare good unto the king, with one accord; let thy word, I pray thee, be like the word of one of them, and speak that which is good." And Micaiah said, "As Jehovah liveth, whatsoever Jehovah saith unto me, that will I speak." And he came to the king. And the king said unto him, "Micaiah, shall we go against Ramoth-gilead to battle, or shall we forbear?" And he said unto him, "Go and prosper; for Jehovah will deliver it into the hand of the king!" And the king said unto him, "How many times shall I adjure thee that thou tell me nothing but that which is true, in the name of Jehovah?" And he said, "I saw all Israel scattered,

upon the hills, as sheep that have not a shepherd; and Jehovah said, ‘These have no master; let them return every man to his house in peace.’” And the king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, “Did I not tell thee that he would prophesy no good concerning me, but evil?” And he said, “Hear thou therefore the word of Jehovah. I saw Jehovah sitting on his throne, and all the host of heaven standing by him, on his right hand and on his left. And Jehovah said, ‘Who will persuade Ahab to go up, that he may fall at Ramoth-gilead?’ And one said on this manner, and another on that. And there came forth a spirit, and stood before Jehovah, and said, ‘I will persuade him.’ And Jehovah said unto him ‘How?’ And he said ‘I will go forth, and I will be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.’ And he said, ‘Thou shalt persuade him, and prevail also: go forth and do so.’ Now therefore, behold, Jehovah hath put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these thy prophets; for Jehovah hath spoken evil concerning thee.” And Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah drew near, and smote Micaiah on the cheek, and said, “Which way went the spirit of Jehovah from me to speak unto thee?” And Micaiah said, “Behold, thou shalt see, in that day when thou shalt go into an inner chamber to hide thyself.” And the king of Israel said, “Take Micaiah, and carry him back unto Amon the governor of the city, and to Joash the king’s son, and say, ‘Thus saith the king; put this fellow in prison, and feed him with bread of affliction and water of affliction, until I come in peace.’” And Micaiah said, “If thou return at all in peace, Jehovah hath not spoken by me.” And he said, “Hearken, O my people, every one of you.”

So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat king of Judah went up to Ramoth-gilead. And the king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, “I will disguise myself, and enter into the battle; but do thou wear thine own apparel.” And the king of Israel disguised himself, and went into the battle. But the king of Syria commanded his thirty-two captains who had rule over his chariots, saying, “Fight neither with small nor great, save only with the king of Israel.” And it came to pass, when the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, that they said, “Surely it is the king of Israel.” And they turned aside to fight against him: and Jehoshaphat cried out for aid. And it came to pass, when the captains of the chariots perceived that it was not the king of Israel, that

they turned back from pursuing him. And a certain man ³⁴ drew a bow in fair fight, and smote the king of Israel between the joints of his armour : and he said unto his charioteer, “ Turn thine hand, and carry me out of the host ; for I am wounded.” And the battle was hot that day ; and the ³⁵ king was propped up in his chariot, facing the Syrians ; and he died at even-tide ; and the blood ran out of the wound into the midst of the chariot. And about the going down of ³⁶ the sun, a cry passed through the host, saying, “ Every man to his own city, and every man to his own land ! ” And the ³⁷ king died, and was brought to Samaria ; and they buried the king in Samaria. And the chariot was washed in the pool of ³⁸ Samaria, and the dogs licked up his blood ; (and they *also* washed his armour;) according to the word of Jehovah which he spake.

And the rest of the acts of Ahab, and all that he did, and the ³⁹ ivory house that he built, and all the cities that he built, are they not written in the book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel ? And Ahab slept with his fathers ; and his son ⁴⁰ Ahaziah reigned in his stead.

And Jehoshaphat the son of Asa began to reign over Judah ⁴¹ in the fourth year of Ahab king of Israel. Jehoshaphat was ⁴² thirty-five years old when he began to reign : and he reigned twenty-five years in Jerusalem. And his mother’s name was Azubah, the daughter of Shilhi. And he walked in all the ⁴³ ways of Asa his father ; he turned not aside from them, doing that which was right in the sight of Jehovah. Nevertheless ⁴⁴ the high places were not taken away ; the people offered sacrifice and burned incense still upon the high places. And ⁴⁵ Jehoshaphat made peace with the king of Israel.

And the rest of the acts of Jehoshaphat, and his might ⁴⁶ that he shewed, and how he warred, are they not written in the book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah ? And the ⁴⁷ remnant of the Sodomites who were left in the days of his father Asa, he utterly destroyed out of the land.

There was then no king in Edom : a prefect was king. ⁴⁸

Jehoshaphat made ships of Tarshish, to go to Ophir for ⁴⁹ gold : but they went not ; for the ships were wrecked at Ezion-geber. Then said Ahaziah the son of Ahab unto so Jehoshaphat, “ Let my servants go with thy servants in the ships.” But Jehoshaphat consented not.

And Jehoshaphat slept with his fathers, and was buried ⁵¹

with his fathers in the city of David his father, and Jehoram his son reigned in his stead.

- 52 Ahaziah the son of Ahab began to reign over Israel in Samaria in the seventeenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah ;
53 and he reigned two years over Israel. And he did that which was evil in the sight of Jehovah, and walked in the way of his father, and in the way of his mother, and in the way of
54 Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin. And he served Baal, and worshipped him ; and provoked Jehovah the God of Israel to anger, according to all that his father had done.

THE
SECOND BOOK OF THE KINGS.

CHAP. I.—And Moab rebelled against Israel after the 1 death of Ahab.

And Ahaziah fell down through a lattice in his upper 2 chamber which was in Samaria, and became sick; and he sent messengers, and said unto them, “Go inquire of Baal-zebub the god of Ekron, whether I shall recover of this sickness.” And the angel of Jehovah said to Elijah the 3 Tishbite, “Arise, go up to meet the messengers of the king of Samaria, and say unto them, ‘Is it because there is no God in Israel, that ye go to inquire of Baal-zebub the god of Ekron? Now therefore thus saith Jehovah, Thou shalt 4 not come down from the bed on which thou art gone up, but shalt surely die.’” And Elijah departed. And the mes- 5 sengers returned unto him, and he said unto them, “Why are ye turned back?” And they said unto him, “There came 6 up a man to meet us, and he said unto us, ‘Go, return unto the king that sent you, and say unto him, Thus saith Jehovah, Is it because there is no God in Israel, that thou sendest to inquire of Baal-zebub the god of Ekron? Therefore thou shalt not come down from the bed on which thou art gone up, but shalt surely die.’” And he said unto them, “What 7 manner of man was he who came up to meet you, and spake unto you these words?” And they said unto him, “He 8 was an hairy man, and girt with a girdle of leather about his loins.” And he said, “It is Elijah the Tishbite.” And he sent unto him a captain of fifty with his fifty men. 9 And he went up to him; and, behold, he was sitting on the top of the mount. And he said unto him, “Thou man of God, the king hath said, ‘Come down.’” And Elijah an- 10

swwered and said to the captain of fifty, "If I be a man of God, then fire shall come down from heaven, and consume thee and thy fifty men." And there came down fire from
11 heaven, and consumed him and his fifty men. And again he sent unto him another captain of fifty with his fifty men. And he answered and said unto him, "Thou man of God,
12 thus hath the king said, 'Come down quickly.'" And Elijah answered and said unto him, "If I be a man of God, fire shall come down from heaven, and consume thee and thy fifty men." And fire came down from heaven, and
13 consumed him and his fifty men. And again he sent the captain of a third fifty with his fifty men. And the third captain of fifty went up, and fell on his knees before Elijah, and besought him, and said unto him, "O man of God, let my life, I pray thee, and the life of these fifty servants of
14 thine, be precious in thy sight. Behold, there came down fire from heaven, and consumed the former two captains of fifty with their fifties; therefore let my life now be precious
15 in thy sight." And the angel of Jehovah said unto Elijah, "Go down with him: be not afraid of him." And he arose,
16 and went down with him unto the king. And he said unto him, "Thus saith Jehovah; 'Forasmuch as thou hast sent messengers to inquire of Baal-zebul the god of Ekron, is it because there is no God in Israel of whose word thou mightest inquire? Therefore thou shalt not come down from the bed on which thou hast gone up, but shalt surely die.'"
17 So he died, according to the word of Jehovah which Elijah had spoken. And because he had no son, Jehoram his brother reigned in his stead, in the second year of Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat, king of Judah.
18 And the rest of the acts of Ahaziah which he did, are they not written in the book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel?

1 CHAP. II.—And it came to pass, when Jehovah was about to take up Elijah into heaven by a whirlwind, that
2 Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal. And Elijah said unto Elisha, "Tarry here, I pray thee; for Jehovah hath sent me to Bethel." And Elisha said, "As Jehovah liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee." So they went down
3 to Bethel. And the sons of the prophets who were in Bethel came forth to Elisha, and said unto him, "Knowest thou that

Jehovah is about to take away thy master from over thy head, this day?" And he said, "Yea, I know it; hold ye your peace." And Elijah said unto him, "Elisha, tarry here, I 4 pray thee; for Jehovah hath sent me to Jericho." And he said, "As Jehovah liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee." So they came to Jericho. And the sons of 5 the prophets who were in Jericho came to Elisha, and said unto him, "Knowest thou that Jehovah is about to take away thy master from over thy head, this day?" And he said, "Yea, I know it; hold ye your peace." And Elijah 6 said unto him, "Tarry here, I pray thee; for Jehovah hath sent me to the Jordan." And he said, "As Jehovah liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee." And they both went on. And fifty men of the sons of the prophets 7 went, and stood to view afar off: and they two stood by the Jordan. And Elijah took his mantle, and wrapped it toge- 8 ther, and smote the waters, and they divided hither and thither; and they both passed over on dry ground. And it 9 came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, "Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee." And Elisha said, "I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me." And he said, 10 "Thou hast asked a hard thing: *nevertheless* if thou see me when I am taken from thee, it shall be so unto thee; but if not, it shall not be so." And it came to pass, as they still 11 went on, and talked, that, behold, *there appeared* a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. And 12 Elisha saw it, and he cried, "My father, my father! the chariot of Israel, and the steeds thereof!" And he saw him no more; and he laid hold on his own garments, and rent them into two pieces. And he took up the mantle of Elijah 13 which had fallen from him, and went back, and stood by the bank of the Jordan; and he took the mantle of Elijah 14 which had fallen from him, and he too smote the waters, and said, "Where is Jehovah the God of Elijah?" And when he had smitten the waters, they parted hither and thither, and Elisha passed over. And the sons of the prophets who 15 were in Jericho on the opposite side saw him, and they said, "The spirit of Elijah doth rest on Elisha:" and they came to meet him, and bowed themselves to the ground before him. And they said unto him, "Behold now, there are with 16 thy servants fifty strong men; let them go, we pray thee,

and seek thy master, lest peradventure the spirit of Jehovah hath taken him up, and cast him upon some mountain, or
17 into some valley.” And he said, “Send not.” And they urged him till he was ashamed: and he said, “Send.” And they sent fifty men, and they sought three days, but found
18 him not. And they came again to him, for he had tarried at Jericho; and he said unto them, “Did I not say unto you, ‘Go not?’”

19 And the men of the city said unto Elisha, “Behold, we pray thee, the situation of this city is pleasant, as my lord
20 seeth; but the water is bad, and the soil barren.” And he said, “Bring me a new cruse, and put salt therein.” And
21 they brought it to him. And he went forth unto the source of the waters, and cast the salt in there, and said, “Thus saith Jehovah, ‘I have healed these waters; there shall not
22 be thence any more death, or barrenness of soil.’” And the waters were healed until this day, according to the saying of Elisha which he spake.

23 And he went up thence unto Bethel; and as he was going up by the way, there came forth little children out of the city, and mocked him, and said unto him, “Go up, thou bald head! Go up, thou bald head!” And he turned back, and looked on them, and cursed them in the name of Jehovah; and there came forth two she-bears out of the wood, and tore in pieces forty and two children of them. And thence he went to mount Carmel; and thence he returned to Samaria.

1 CHAP. III.—And Jehoram the son of Ahab began to reign over Israel in Samaria in the eighteenth year of Jeho-
2 shaphat king of Judah; and he reigned twelve years: and he did that which was evil in the sight of Jehovah, yet not like his father, nor like his mother: for he put away the
3 image of Baal which his father had made. Nevertheless he clave unto the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin; he departed not from them.

4 And Mesha king of Moab was a flock-master; and he rendered unto the king of Israel an hundred thousand lambs and an hundred thousand rams; *that is to say*, the wool of
5 them. But it came to pass, when Ahab was dead, that the
6 king of Moab rebelled against the king of Israel. And king
Jehoram went out of Samaria at that time, and mustered all
7 Israel. And he went and sent to Jehoshaphat the king of

Judah, saying, “The king of Moab hath rebelled against me: wilt thou go with me against Moab to battle?” And he said, “I will go up; I am as thou art; my people as thy people, *and my horses as thy horses.*” And he said,⁸ “Which way shall we go up?” And he answered, “By the way of the wilderness of Edom.” So the king of Israel⁹ went, and the king of Judah, and the king of Edom; and they made a circuit of seven days’ journey; and there was no water for the host, nor for the cattle that followed them. And the king of Israel said, “Alas! that Jehovah should¹⁰ have summoned these three kings, to deliver them into the hand of Moab!” But Jehoshaphat said, “Is there here no¹¹ prophet of Jehovah, by whom we may inquire of Jehovah?” And one of the king of Israel’s servants answered and said, “Elisha the son of Shaphat, who poured water on the hands of Elijah, is here.” And Jehoshaphat said, “The word of¹² Jehovah is with him.” So the king of Israel, and Jehoshaphat, and the king of Edom, went down to him. And¹³ Elisha said unto the king of Israel, “What have I to do with thee? Go thou to the prophets of thy father, and the prophets of thy mother.” And the king of Israel said unto him, “Nay; for Jehovah hath summoned these three kings, to deliver them into the hand of Moab.” And Elisha said,¹⁴ “As Jehovah of hosts liveth, before whom I stand, were it not that I reverence Jehoshaphat the king of Judah, I would not look toward thee, nor see thee: but bring me now a¹⁵ minstrel.” And it came to pass, when the minstrel played, that the hand of Jehovah came upon him. And he said,¹⁶ “Thus saith Jehovah, ‘Make this valley full of ditches:’ for thus saith Jehovah, ‘Ye shall not see wind, neither shall ye see rain, yet that valley shall be filled with water, that ye may drink, both ye and your cattle, and your beasts.’ And this is but a light thing in the sight of Jehovah; he¹⁸ will deliver the Moabites also into your hand: and ye shall¹⁹ smite every fenced city, and every choice city, and shall fell every good tree, and stop all the wells of water, and mar every good piece of land with stones.” And it came to pass²⁰ in the morning, at the hour of offering up the sacrifice, that behold there came water by the way of Edom, and the country was filled with water.

And when all the Moabites heard that the kings were²¹ come to fight against them, they gathered all that were of an age to put on armour, and upward, and stood upon the

22 border. And they rose up early in the morning, and the sun shone upon the water; and the Moabites saw the water on 23 the other side red as blood. And they said, "This is blood; the kings are surely slain; and they have smitten one an- 24 other: now therefore, Moab to the spoil!" And when they came to the camp of Israel, the Israelites rose up and smote the Moabites, so that they fled before them; and they went 25 among them, smiting the Moabites. And they beat down the cities; and on every good piece of land, every man cast his stone, and filled it; and they stopped all the wells of water, and felled all the good trees: only in Kir-haraseth they left the stones thereof; but yet the slingers went round it, and 26 smote it. And when the king of Moab saw that the battle was too sore for him, he took with him seven hundred men that drew sword, to break through even unto the king of 27 Edom; but they could not. Then he took his eldest son who was to have been king in his stead, and offered him up for a burnt-offering upon the wall. And there was great indignation against Israel: and they departed from him, and returned to *their own land.*

1 CHAP. IV.—And a certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets cried unto Elisha, saying, "Thy servant my husband is dead; and thou knowest that thy servant was one that feared Jehovah; and a creditor is come to take unto 2 him my two sons to be bondmen." And Elisha said unto her, "What shall I do for thee? Tell me what hast thou in the house?" And she said, "Thine handmaid hath not 3 any thing in the house, save a jar of oil." And he said, "Go, borrow thee vessels abroad, of all thy neighbours; 4 empty vessels; borrow not a few. And when thou art come in, thou shalt shut the door upon thee and upon thy sons; and thou shalt pour out into all those vessels, and shalt set 5 aside that which is full." So she went from him, and shut the door upon her and upon her sons; and they brought *the* 6 *vessels* to her, and she poured out. And it came to pass, when the vessels were full, that she said unto her son, "Bring me another vessel." And he said unto her, "There is not a 7 vessel more." And the oil ceased flowing. Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, "Go, sell the oil, and pay thy debt; and live, thou and thy children, on the rest."

8 And it came to pass on a certain day, that Elisha passed

to Shunem, where there was a great lady; and she constrained him to eat bread. And so it was, that as often as he passed by, he turned in thither to eat bread. And she said ⁹ unto her husband, "Behold now, I perceive that this is a holy man of God, who passeth by us continually. Let us make a ¹⁰ little walled upper-chamber, I pray thee; and let us set for him there a bed, and a table, and a seat, and a lamp-stand; and it shall be, that whenever he cometh to us, he shall turn in thither." And it came to pass on a certain day, that he ¹¹ came thither, and he turned into the chamber, and lay there. And he said to Gehazi his servant, "Call this Shunammite." ¹² And when he had called her, she stood before him. And ¹³ he said unto him, "Say now unto her, 'Behold, thou hast been careful for us with all this care; what is to be done for thee? Hast thou any matter to be mentioned to the king, or to the captain of the host?'" And she said, "I dwell in the midst of mine own people." And he said, ¹⁴ "What then is to be done for her?" And Gehazi answered, "Verily she hath no child, and her husband is old." And ¹⁵ he said, "Call her." And he called her, and she stood in the door. And he said, "About this season, next year, thou ¹⁶ shalt embrace a son." And she said, "Nay, my lord, thou man of God, do not lie unto thine handmaid." And the ¹⁷ woman conceived, and bare a son at that season next year, as Elisha had said unto her.

And when the child was grown, it came to pass on a cer- ¹⁸ tain day, that he went out to his father to the reapers. And ¹⁹ he said unto his father, "My head, my head!" And he said to a young man, "Carry him to his mother." And he ²⁰ took him, and brought him to his mother; and he sat upon her knees till noon; and then he died. And she went up, ²¹ and laid him on the bed of the man of God, and shut the door upon him, and went out. And she called unto her hus- ²² band, and said, "Send me, I pray thee, one of the young men, and one of the asses, that I may run to the man of God, and come again." And he said, "Wherefore wilt thou go ²³ to him to-day? It is neither new moon nor sabbath." And she said, "It is well." Then she saddled an ass, and said to ²⁴ her servant, "Drive, and go forward; slack not thy riding for me, except I bid thee." So she went, and came unto the man ²⁵ of God, to mount Carmel. And it came to pass, when the man of God saw her afar off, that he said to Gehazi his servant, "Behold, *yonder* is that Shunammite. Run now, I pray thee, ²⁶

to meet her, and say unto her, ‘Is it well with thee? Is it well with thy husband? Is it well with the child?’” And 27 she answered, “It is well.” And when she came to the man of God, to the hill, she caught him by the feet: and Gehazi came near to thrust her away. But the man of God said, “Let her alone, for her soul is vexed within her; and Jehovah 28 hath hid it from me, and hath not told me.” And she said, “Did I desire a son of my lord? Did I not say, ‘Do 29 not deceive me?’” Then he said unto Gehazi, “Gird up thy loins, and take my staff in thine hand, and go thy way: if thou meet any man, salute him not; and if any man salute thee, answer him not again: and lay my staff upon 30 the face of the child.” And the mother of the child said, “As Jehovah liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave 31 thee.” And he arose and followed her. And Gehazi passed on before them, and laid the staff upon the face of the child; but there was neither voice nor feeling. And he turned him back to meet him, and told him, saying, “The 32 child is not awaked.” And Elisha came into the house, and 33 behold, the child was dead, *and* laid upon his bed. And he went in, and shut the door upon them two; and he 34 prayed unto Jehovah. And he went up, and lay upon the child, and put his mouth upon his mouth, and his eyes upon his eyes, and his hands upon his hands, and he stretched himself upon him; and the flesh of the child became warm. 35 And he returned, and walked in the house, to and fro: and he went up *again*, and stretched himself upon him; and the child sneezed seven times, and the child opened his eyes. 36 And he called to Gehazi, and said, “Call this Shunammite.” And he called her. And when she was come in unto him, 37 he said, “Take up thy son.” And she went in, and fell at his feet; and bowed herself to the ground, and took up her son, and went out. 38 And Elisha came again to Gilgal; and there was a famine in the land. And the sons of the prophets were sitting before him; and he said unto his servant, “Set on the great 39 pot, and boil pottage for the sons of the prophets.” And one went out into the field to gather herbs, and found a wild cucumber-plant, and gathered thereof wild cucumbers, his lap-full, and came and shred them into the pot of pot-40 tage; for they knew them not. And they poured out for the men to eat. And it came to pass, as they were eating of the pottage, that they cried out, and said, “O man of God, there

is death in the pot!" And they could not eat thereof. And he said, "Then bring meal." And he cast it into the pot; and he said, "Pour out for the people, that they may eat." And there was no harm in the pot.

And there came a man from Baal-shalisha; and he brought unto the man of God bread of the first-fruits, twenty barley loaves, and full ears of corn in the husk. And he said, "Give unto the people, that they may eat." And his attendant said, "What! shall I set this before an hundred men?" And he said, "Give unto the people, that they may eat; for thus saith Jehovah, 'They shall eat, and have to spare.'" And he set it before them; and they did eat, and had to spare, according to the word of Jehovah.

CHAP. V.—And Naaman, captain of the host of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master, and honourable, because by him Jehovah had given deliverance unto Syria: and the man was mighty in valour; *but* he was a leper. And the Syrians had gone out in troops, and had brought away captive out of the land of Israel, a young maiden; and she waited on Naaman's wife. And she said unto her mistress, "Would that my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! for then he would recover him from his leprosy." And one went in, and told his lord, saying, "Thus and thus said the maiden that is of the land of Israel." And the king of Syria said, "Go without fail, and I will send a letter unto the king of Israel." And *Naaman* departed, and took with him ten talents of silver, and six thousand pieces of gold, and ten changes of raiment. And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, saying, "Now when this letter is come unto thee, behold, I have sent Naaman my servant unto thee, that thou mayest recover him of his leprosy." And it came to pass, when the king of Israel had read the letter, that he rent his clothes, and said, "Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man doth send unto me, to recover a man of his leprosy? Wherefore consider, I pray you, and see how he seeketh a quarrel against me."

And it came to pass, that when Elisha the man of God had heard that the king of Israel had rent his clothes, he sent to the king, saying, "Wherefore hast thou rent thy clothes? Let him come now to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel." So Naaman came with his horses and with his chariot, and stood at the door of the house of Elisha.

10 And Elisha sent a messenger unto him, saying, "Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again
11 to thee, and thou shalt be clean." And Naaman was wroth,
and went away, and said, "Behold, I thought, He will surely
come out to me, and stand, and call upon the name of Jehovah
his God, and pass his hand over the place, and recover the leper.
12 Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better
than all the waters of Israel? May I not wash in them, and
13 be clean?" And he turned and went away in a rage. And
14 his servants came near, and spake unto him, and said, "My
father, if the prophet had bid thee *do* some great thing,
wouldest thou not have done it? How much rather then, when
15 he saith unto thee, 'Wash and be clean?'" Then he went
down, and dipped himself seven times in Jordan, according
to the saying of the man of God: and his flesh came again,
16 like the flesh of a little child: and he was clean. And he re-
turned to the man of God, he and all his company, and came,
and stood before him: and he said, "Behold, now I know
that there is no God in all the earth, but in Israel: now
therefore I pray thee, accept a present from thy servant."
17 But he said, "As Jehovah liveth, before whom I stand, I
will receive nothing." And he urged him to take it; but he
refused. And Naaman said, "Shall there not, I pray thee,
be given to thy servant, two mules' burden of earth? For
thy servant will henceforth offer neither burnt-offering nor
18 sacrifice unto other gods, but unto Jehovah. Yet in this
thing Jehovah pardon thy servant; when my master goeth
into the house of Rimmon to worship there, and he leaneth
upon mine arm, and I bow myself down in the house of
Rimmon, when I bow myself down in the house of Rimmon,
19 Jehovah pardon thy servant in this thing." And he said
unto him, "Go in peace." So he departed from him a little
way. But Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God,
said, "Behold, my master hath spared this Naaman the
Syrian, in not receiving at his hands that which he brought;
but as Jehovah liveth, I will run after him, and take some-
21 what of him." So Gehazi followed after Naaman. And
when Naaman saw him running after him, he alighted from
22 the chariot to meet him, and said, "Is all well?" And he
said, "All is well; *but* my master hath sent me, saying,
'Behold, even now there are come to me from mount Ephraim,
two young men of the sons of the prophets; give them, I
pray thee, a talent of silver, and two changes of raiment.'"

And Naaman said, "Be prevailed upon, take two talents." 23
 And he urged him, and bound two talents of silver in two bags, with two changes of raiment, and gave them unto two of his servants; and they carried them before him. 24
 And when he came to the mount, he took them from their hand, and laid them up in the house: and he let the men go, and they departed. 25
 And he went in, and stood before his master; and Elisha said unto him, "Whence comest thou, Gehazi?" 26
 And he said, "Thy servant went no where." 27
 And he said, "Did not mine heart sink, when the man turned again from his chariot to meet thee? Is it a time to receive silver, and to receive garments, and olive-yards, and vineyards, and sheep, and oxen, and men-servants, and maid-servants? The leprosy therefore of Naaman shall cleave unto thee, and unto thy seed for ever." 28
 And he went out from his presence a leper *white* as snow.

CHAP. VI.—And the sons of the prophets said unto Eli-sha, "Behold now, the place in which we dwell with thee, is too small for us. Let us go, we pray thee, unto the Jordan, 2 and take thence every man a beam, and let us make there a place in which we may dwell." 3 And he said, "Go." 4 And one said, "Be prevailed on, I pray thee, and go with thy servants." 5 And he said, "I will go." 6 So he went with them. 7 And when they came to the Jordan, they cut down wood. 8 And as one of them was felling a beam, the iron *axe-head* fell into the water; and he cried, and said, "Alas, master! for it was borrowed!" 9 And the man of God said, "Where did it fall?" 10 And he showed him the place. And he cut down a stick, and cast it in thither, and the iron floated. 11 And he said, "Take it up unto thee." 12 And he put out his hand, and took it.

And the king of Syria warred against Israel, and took counsel with his servants saying, "In such and such a place shall be my camp." 13 And the man of God sent unto the king of Israel, saying, "Beware that thou neglect not such a place; for thither the Syrians are coming down." 14 And the king of Israel sent to the place of which the man of God had told him and warned him; and every man was on his guard there; and this happened not once nor twice. 15 And the heart of the king of Syria was sore troubled at this thing: and he called his servants and said unto them, "Will ye not shew unto me which of those that belong to us is on

12 the king of Israel's side?" And one of his servants said, "Nay, my lord, O king: but Elisha, the prophet who is in Israel, telleth the king of Israel the words that thou speakest
13 in thy bed-chamber." And he said, "Go and see where he is, that I may send and take him." And it was told unto
14 him, saying, "Behold, he is in Dothan." And he sent thither horses, and chariots, and a great host; and they came
15 by night, and surrounded the city. And the attendant of the man of God rose up early, and went forth, and, behold, a host surrounded the city, both with horses and chariots.
And his young man said unto him, "Alas, my master! how
16 shall we do?" And he said, "Fear not; for they that are
17 with us are more than they that are with them." And Elisha prayed, and said, "O Jehovah! open, I pray thee, his eyes that he may see." And Jehovah opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full
18 of horses and chariots of fire, round about Elisha. And they came down unto him; and Elisha prayed unto Jehovah, and said, "Smite, I pray thee, this people with blindness." And he smote them with blindness, according to the word of
19 Elisha. And Elisha said unto them, "This is not the way, neither is this the city: follow me, and I will bring you to
20 the man whom ye seek." And he led them to Samaria. And it came to pass, when they were come to Samaria, that Elisha said, "O Jehovah! open the eyes of these men, that they may see." And Jehovah opened their eyes, and they saw:
21 and, behold, they were in the midst of Samaria. And the king of Israel said unto Elisha, when he saw them, "My
22 father! shall I smite? shall I smite?" And he said, "Smite not: wouldest thou smite those whom thou hast taken captive with thy sword and with thy bow? Set bread and water before them, that they may eat and drink, and go to their
23 master." And he prepared for them a great banquet: and when they had eaten and drunk, he sent them away, and they went to their master. And the bands of Syria came no more into the land of Israel.
24 And it came to pass, after this, that Ben-hadad, king of Syria, gathered all his host, and went up, and besieged
25 Samaria. And there was a great famine in Samaria: and, behold, they besieged it until an ass's head was sold for fourscore pieces of silver, and the fourth part of a cab of
26 pigeon's dung for five pieces of silver. And as the king of Israel was passing by upon the wall, a woman cried unto

him, saying, "Help! my lord, O king!" And he said, 27
 "If Jehovah do not help thee, whence shall I help thee?
 out of the barn-floor, or out of the wine-press?" And the 28
 king said unto her, "What aileth thee?" And she said,
 "This woman said unto me, 'Give thy son, that we may eat
 him to-day, and we will eat my son to-morrow.' So we 29
 boiled my son, and did eat him: and I said unto her on the
 next day, 'Give thy son, that we may eat him:' and she hath
 hid her son." And it came to pass, when the king heard 30
 the words of the woman, that he rent his clothes: (now he
 was passing by on the wall:) and the people looked, and,
 behold, he had sack-cloth within upon his flesh. And he 31
 said, "God do so unto me, and more also, if the head of
 Elisha the son of Shaphat shall remain upon him this day."
 And Elisha was sitting in his house, and the elders were 32
 sitting with him; and *the king* sent a man before him; but
 ere the messenger came to him *Elisha* said to the elders, "See
 ye how this son of a murderer hath sent to take off my head?
 Look, when the messenger cometh, shut the door, and hold
 him fast at the door. Is not the sound of his master's feet
 behind him?" And while he was yet talking with them, 33
 behold the messenger came down to him. (Now *the king*
 had said, "Behold, this evil is from Jehovah; why should
 I wait for Jehovah any longer?") CHAP. VII.—And 1
Elisha said, "Hear ye the word of Jehovah: thus saith Je-
 hovah, 'To-morrow about this time a measure of fine flour
 shall be sold for a shekel, and two measures of barley for a
 shekel, in the gate of Samaria.'" And the lord on whose 2
 arm the king leaned, answered the man of God, and said,
 "Behold, will Jehovah make windows in heaven, that this
 thing should come to pass?" And he said, "Behold, thou
 shalt see it with thine eyes; but thou shalt not eat thereof."

And there were four leprous men at the entrance of the 3]
 gate: and they said one to another, "Why sit we here until
 we die? If we say, 'We will enter into the city,' then the 4
 famine is in the city, and we shall die there: and if we sit
 still here, we die also. Now therefore come, and let us desert
 unto the host of the Syrians: if they spare our lives, we
 shall live; and if they kill us, we shall *but* die." And they 5
 rose up in the twilight, to go to the camp of the Syrians;
 and when they were come to the verge of the camp of the
 Syrians, behold, there was no man there. For Jehovah had 6
 made the host of the Syrians to hear a noise of chariots, and

a noise of horses, even the noise of a very great host: and they said one to another, "Lo, the king of Israel hath hired against us the kings of the Hittites, and the kings of the Egyptians, to come upon us." And they arose, and fled in the twilight, and left their tents, and their horses, and their asses, even the camp as it was, and fled for their lives. And when these lepers came to the verge of the camp, they went into one tent, and did eat and drink; and carried thence silver and gold, and raiment, and went and hid it. And they came again and went into another tent, and carried thence also, and went and hid it. Then they said one to another, "We do not well: this day is a day of good tidings, and we hold our peace: if we tarry till the morning light, some mischief will come upon us: now therefore, come, let us go, and tell the king's household." So they came, and called unto the guards at the gate of the city: and they told them, saying, "We came to the camp of the Syrians, and, behold, there was no man there; neither voice of man; but horses tied, and asses tied, and tents as they were." And the guards of the gate were called, and they told it to the king's household within. And the king arose in the night, and said unto his servants, "I will now shew you what the Syrians have done to us. They know that we are famishing; therefore are they gone out of the camp, to hide themselves in the field, saying, 'When they come out of the city, we shall catch them alive, and get into the city.'" And one of his servants answered, and said, "Let some take, I pray thee, five of the horses that remain, which are left in the city; (behold, these are all that remain unto the whole multitude of Israel;) and let us send and see." They took therefore two pair of horses, and the king sent after the host of the Syrians, saying, "Go and see." And they went after them to the Jordan; and, behold, all the way was full of garments and weapons, which the Syrians had cast away in their haste. And the messengers returned, and told the king. And the people went out, and plundered the tents of the Syrians. So a measure of fine flour was sold for a shekel, and two measures of barley for a shekel, according to the word of Jehovah.

17 And the king appointed the lord on whose arm he had leaned, to have the charge of the gate: and the people trampled upon him in the gate, and he died, as the man of God had said, who spake when the king came down to him.

And it came to pass, as the man of God had spoken to the 18 king, saying, "Two measures of barley shall be sold for a shekel, and a measure of fine flour for a shekel, to-morrow about this time, in the gate of Samaria," and that lord an- 19 swered the man of God, and said, "Now, behold, will Jehovah make windows in heaven, that this thing should come to pass?" and he said, "Behold thou shalt see it with thine eyes, but shalt not eat thereof," even so it came to pass 20 with him; for the people trampled upon him in the gate, and he died.

CHAP. VIII.—And Elisha spake unto the woman whose 1 son he had restored to life, saying, "Arise and go, thou and thine household, and sojourn wherever thou canst sojourn: for Jehovah hath called for a famine, and it is even come upon the land, for seven years." And the woman arose, and 2 did as the man of God had said; and she went with her household, and sojourned in the land of the Philistines seven years. And it came to pass at the seven years' end, that 3 the woman returned out of the land of the Philistines; and she went forth to cry unto the king for her house and for her land. And the king was conversing with Gehazi, the 4 servant of the man of God, saying, "Tell me, I pray thee, all the great things that Elisha hath done." And it came 5 to pass, as he was telling the king how he had restored the dead body to life, that, behold, the woman whose son he had restored to life, cried to the king for her house and for her land. And Gehazi said, "My lord, O king, this is the 6 woman, and this is her son whom Elisha restored to life." And the king asked the woman, and she told him. And the king appointed unto her a certain officer, saying, "Restore all that was hers, and all the profits of the field, since the 7 day that she left the land, even until now."

And Elisha came to Damascus; and Ben-hadad the king 7 of Syria was sick; and it was told unto him, saying, "The man of God is come hither." And the king said unto 8 Hazael, "Take a present in thine hand, and go, meet the man of God, and inquire of Jehovah by him, saying, 'Shall I recover of this disease?'" So Hazael went to meet him, 9 and took a present with him, even of every good thing of Damascus, forty camels' burden; and he came and stood before him, and said, "Thy son Ben-hadad the king of Syria hath sent me to thee, saying, 'Shall I recover of this

10 disease?" And Elisha said unto him, "Go, say unto him, 'Thou shalt certainly recover ;' howbeit Jehovah hath
11 shewed unto me that he shall surely die." And he settled his countenance steadfastly upon him, until he was ashamed :
12 and the man of God wept. And Hazael said, "Why weepeth my lord?" And he said, "Because I know the evil that thou wilt do unto the children of Israel ; their strongholds thou wilt set on fire ; and their young men thou wilt slay with the sword ; and thou wilt dash their children in pieces ; and thou wilt rip up their women
13 with child." And Hazael said, "But what! Is thy servant a dog that he should do this great thing?" And Elisha said, "Jehovah hath showed me that thou shalt be king
14 over Syria." And he departed from Elisha, and came to his master ; and he said to him, "What said Elisha unto thee?" And he said, "He told me that thou shouldst
15 surely recover." And it came to pass on the morrow, that he took a thick cloth, and dipped it in water, and spread it on his face, so that he died : and Hazael reigned in his stead.

16 And in the fifth year of Joram the son of Ahab king of Israel, Jehoram the son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah began
17 to reign. He was thirty-two years old when he began to
18 reign ; and he reigned eight years in Jerusalem. And he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, as did the house of Ahab ; for a daughter of Ahab was his wife ; and
19 he did that which was evil in the sight of Jehovah. Yet Jehovah would not destroy Judah for David his servant's sake, as he had promised him to give unto him, and unto his children, a lamp for ever.

20 In his days Edom revolted from under the hand of Judah,
21 and made a king over themselves. And Joram went over to Zair, and all the chariots with him ; and he rose by night, and smote the Edomites who had surrounded him, and the captains of the chariots ; but the people fled unto their
22 tents. And Edom revolted from under the hand of Judah unto this day. Then Libnah revolted at the same time.

23 And the rest of the acts of Joram, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the Annals of the Kings of
24 Judah ? And Joram slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David ; and Ahaziah his son reigned in his stead.

In the twelfth year of Joram the son of Ahab king of ²³ Israel, Ahaziah the son of Jehoram king of Judah began to reign. Ahaziah was twenty-two years old when he ²⁴ began to reign, and he reigned one year in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Athaliah, the daughter of Omri, king of Israel. And he walked in the way of the house of Ahab, ²⁵ and did that which was evil in the sight of Jehovah as did the house of Ahab: for he was a son-in-law of the house of Ahab.

And he went with Joram the son of Ahab to the war against ²⁶ Hazael king of Syria in Ramoth-gilead: and the Syrians wounded Joram. And king Joram went back to be healed ²⁷ in Jezreel, of the wounds which the Syrians had given him at Ramah, when he fought against Hazael king of Syria. And Ahaziah the son of Jehoram king of Judah went down to see Joram the son of Ahab, in Jezreel, because he was sick.

CHAP. IX.—And Elisha the prophet called one of the ¹ sons of the prophets, and said unto him, “Gird up thy loins, and take this box of oil in thine hand, and go to Ramoth-gilead: and when thou comest thither, look there ² for Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi; and go in, and make him arise up from among his brethren, and bring him to an inner chamber; and take the box of oil, and ³ pour it on his head, and say, ‘Thus saith Jehovah, I have anointed thee king over Israel,’ and open the door, and flee, and tarry not.” And the young man, *even* the young prophet, ⁴ went to Ramoth-gilead. And when he came, behold, the captains of the host were sitting; and he said, “I have a message for thee, O captain.” And Jehu said, “For which of us ⁵ all?” And he said, “For thee, O captain.” And he arose, and ⁶ went into the house; and he poured the oil on his head, and said unto him, “Thus saith Jehovah the God of Israel, ‘I have anointed thee king over the people of Jehovah, even over Israel. And thou shalt smite the house of Ahab thy ⁷ master, that I may take vengeance upon Jezebel for the blood of my servants the prophets, and the blood of all the servants of Jehovah. For the whole house of Ahab shall ⁸ perish: and I will cut off from Ahab every male of his offspring, young child and grown man in Israel. And I ⁹ will make the house of Ahab like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the

10 son of Ahijah : and the dogs shall eat Jezebel in the field of Jezreel, and there shall be none to bary her.' " And he opened the door and fled.

11 And Jehu came forth to the servants of his lord : and one said unto him, " Is all well ? Wherefore cause this mad fellow to thee ? " And he said unto them, " Ye know the man, and his communication." And they said, " It is false : tell us, we pray thee." And he said, " Thus and thus spake he to me, saying, ' Thus saith Jehovah, I have anointed thee king over Israel.' " Then they hasted, and took every man his garment, and they put them under him on the steps of the stairs ; and they blew with trumpets, saying, " Jehu is king ! " So Jehu the son of Jehosaphat the son of Nimshi conspired against Joram. Now Joram had been guarding Ramoth-gilead, he and all Israel, because of Hazael king of Syria : but king Jehoram was returned to be healed in Jezreel of the wounds which the Syrians had given him, when he fought with Hazael king of Syria. And Jehu said, " If such be your mind, let no deserter go forth out of the city 16 to go to tell it in Jezreel." And Jehu mounted his chariot, and went to Jezreel ; for Joram lay there. And Ahaziah 17 king of Judah was come down to see Joram. And there stood a watchman on the tower in Jezreel, and he spied the company of Jehu as he came, and said, " I see a company." And Jehoram said, " Take a horseman, and send to meet them, and let him say, " Is it peace ? " So there went out one on horseback to meet him, and said, " Thus saith the king, ' Is it peace ? ' " And Jehu said, " What hast thou to do with peace ? Turn thee behind me." And the watchman told, saying, " The messenger came to them, but he cometh not again." Then he sent out a second on horseback, who came to them, and said, " Thus saith the king, ' Is it peace ? ' " And Jehu said, " What hast thou to do with peace ? Turn 20 thee behind me." And the watchman told saying, " He came even unto them, and he cometh not again : and the driving is like the driving of Jehu the son of Nimshi ; for he driveth furiously." And Jehoram said, " Make ready my chariot." And his chariot was made ready. And Jehoram king of Israel and Ahaziah king of Judah went out, each in his chariot, and they went out to meet Jehu ; and they met him in 22 the field of Naboth the Jezreelite. And it came to pass, when Jehoram saw Jehu, that he said, " Is it peace, Jehu ? " And he said, " What peace can there be, so long as the whoredoms

of thy mother Jezebel and her witch-crafts are so many?" And 23 Jehoram turned his hands and fled; and he said to Ahaziah, "There is treachery, O Ahaziah!" And Jehu drew a bow 24 with all his might, and smote Jehoram between his arms; and the arrow went out at his heart; and he sunk down in his chariot. Then said *Jehu* to Bidkar his captain, "Take 25 him up, *and* cast him into the portion of the field of Naboth the Jezreelite; for remember how, when I and thou rode together after Ahab his father, Jehovah laid this burden upon him: 'Have I not seen yesterday the blood of Naboth, and the 26 blood of his sons?' said Jehovah; 'therefore I will requite thee in this field,' said Jehovah; now therefore take and cast him into that field, according to the word of Jehovah." And when Ahaziah the king of Judah saw this, he fled by 27 the way of the garden-house. And Jehu followed after him, and said, "Smite him also in the chariot." *And they did so* in the way up to Gur, which is by Jibleam. And he fled to Megiddo, and died there. And his servants carried 28 him in a chariot to Jerusalem, and buried him in his sepulchre with his fathers in the city of David. Now Ahaziah 29 had begun to reign over Judah in the eleventh year of Joram the son of Ahab.

And when Jehu was come to Jezreel, Jezebel heard of it; 30 and she stained her eye-lids, and decked her head, and looked out at a window. And as Jehu entered in at the 31 gate, she said, "Went it well with Zimri who slew his master?" And he lifted up his face toward the window, 32 and said, "Who is on my side? who?" And there looked out to him two or three eunuchs. And he said, "Throw her 33 down!" And they threw her down; and some of her blood splashed up against the wall, and on the horses; and she was trampled under foot. And when he was come in, he did 34 eat and drink, and said, "Go, see now after this accursed woman, and bury her; for she is a king's daughter." And 35 they went to bury her; but they found no more of her but the skull, and the feet, and the palms of her hands. Where- 36 fore they came again and told him; and he said, "This is the word of Jehovah, which he spake by his servant Elijah the Tishbite, saying, 'In the field of Jezreel shall dogs eat the flesh of Jezebel; and the carcase of Jezebel shall be as 37 dung on the face of the ground in the field of Jezreel: so that they shall not say, This is Jezebel.'"

1 CHAP. X.—And Ahab had seventy sons in Samaria.
2 And Jehu wrote letters, and sent to Samaria unto the rulers
3 of the city, unto the elders, and unto the guardians of
4 Ahab's *children*, saying, “Now as soon as this letter cometh
5 to you, seeing your master's sons are with you, and there are
6 with you chariots and horses, also a fenced city, and armour,
7 look out the best and meetest of your master's sons, and set
8 him on his father's throne, and fight for your master's
9 house.” But they were exceedingly afraid, and said, “Be-
10 hold, two kings stood not before him: how then shall we
11 stand?” And he that was over the house, and he that was
12 over the city, the elders also, and the guardians of the *children*
13 sent to Jehu, saying, “We are thy servants, and will do all
14 that thou shalt bid us; we will not make any king: do thou
15 that which is good in thine eyes.” And he wrote a letter
16 the second time to them, saying, “If ye be mine, and if
17 ye will hearken unto my voice, take ye the heads of the men
18 your master's sons, and come to me to Jezreel by to-morrow
19 at this time.” Now the king's sons, seventy men, were with
20 the great men of the city, who were their guardians. And
21 it came to pass, when the letter came to them, that they
22 took the king's sons, and slew *them*, seventy persons, and
23 put their heads in baskets, and sent *them* unto him to Jez-
24 reel. And there came a messenger and told him, saying,
25 “They have brought the heads of the king's sons.” And
26 he said, “Lay them in two heaps at the entrance of the gate
27 until the morning.” And it came to pass in the morning,
28 that he went out, and stood, and said to all the people, “Ye
29 are righteous! Behold, I conspired against my master, and
30 slew him; but who slew all these? Know now that there
31 shall fall to the ground nothing of the word of Jehovah,
32 which Jehovah spake concerning the house of Ahab: for
33 Jehovah hath done that which he spake by his servant
34 Elijah.” And Jehu slew all that remained of the house of
35 Ahab in Jezreel, and all his great men, and his companions,
36 and his priests, until he left him none remaining.
37 And he arose, and departed, and came to Samaria. And
38 as he was at Beth-ekeb-haroïm in the way, Jehu met with
39 the brethren of Ahaziah king of Judah, and said, “Who
40 are ye?” And they said, “We are the brethren of Ahaziah;
41 and we are going down to salute the children of the king,
42 and the children of the queen.” And he said, “Take them
43 alive.” And they took them alive, and slew them at the pit of

Beth-ekeb ; even forty-two men : and he left not a man of them. And he departed thence, and found Jehonadab the son ¹⁵ of Rechab coming to meet him : and he saluted him, and said to him, " Is thy heart right, as my heart is with thy heart ? " And Jehonadab said, " It is." *And he said,* " If it be, give me thine hand :" and he gave *him* his hand, and he took him up to him into the chariot. And he said, " Come ¹⁶ with me, and see my seal for Jehovah :" and he made him ride in his chariot. And when he came to Samaria, he slew ¹⁷ all that remained unto Ahab in Samaria, till he had utterly destroyed him, according to the saying of Jehovah, which he had spoken unto Elijah.

And Jehu gathered all the people together, and said unto ¹⁸ them, " Ahab served Baal a little, *but* Jehu will serve him much. Now therefore call unto me all the prophets of Baal, ¹⁹ all his servants, and all his priests ; let none be wanting ; for I have a great sacrifice to do unto Baal ; whosoever shall be wanting, he shall not live." But Jehu did it in subtlety, to the intent that he might destroy the worshippers of Baal. And Jehu said, " Sanctify a solemn assembly for Baal." ²⁰ And they proclaimed it. And Jehu sent through all Israel ; ²¹ and all the worshippers of Baal came, so that there was not a man left that came not. And they came into the house of Baal ; and the house of Baal was full, from one end to another. And he said unto him that was over the wardrobe, ²² " Bring forth vestments for all the worshippers of Baal." And he brought them forth vestments. And Jehu went, and ²³ Jehonadab the son of Rechab, into the house of Baal ; and he said unto the worshippers of Baal, " Search, and see that there be here with you none of the servants of Jehovah, but the worshippers of Baal only." And when they went in to ²⁴ offer sacrifices and burnt-offerings, Jehu appointed four-score men without, and said, " If any one of the men whom I have brought into your hands escape, the life of him *that letteth him go* shall be for his life." And it came to pass, as ²⁵ soon as an end had been made of offering the burnt-offering, that Jehu said to the guards and to the captains, " Go in, *and slay them : let none come forth.*" And they smote them with the edge of the sword : and the guards and the captains cast them out ; and they went to the city of the house of Baal. And they brought forth the image out of the house of Baal, ²⁶ and burnt it. And they brake down the image of Baal, ²⁷ and brake down the house of Baal ; and made it a privy

- 28 until this day. Thus Jehu destroyed Baal out of Israel.
 29 Howbeit Jehu departed not from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin; *to wit*, the golden calves that were in Bethel, and in Dan.
 30 And Jehovah said unto Jehu, “Because thou hast done well in executing that which is right in mine eyes, and hast done unto the house of Ahab according to all that was in mine heart, thy children of the fourth generation shall sit
 31 upon the throne of Israel.” But Jehu took not heed, to walk in the law of Jehovah the God of Israel, with all his heart; for he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam, who caused Israel to sin.
 32 In those days Jehovah began to cut Israel short: and
 33 Hazael smote them in all the borders of Israel, from the Jordan eastward; all the land of Gilead, the Gadites, and the Reubenites, and the Manassites, from Aroer, which is by the river Arnon, even Gilead and Bashan.
 34 Now the rest of the acts of Jehu, and all that he did, and all his might, are they not written in the book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel?
 35 And Jehu slept with his fathers, and they buried him in
 36 Samaria. And Jehoahaz his son reigned in his stead. And the time that Jehu reigned over Israel in Samaria was twenty and eight years.
- 1 CHAP. XI.—And when Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she arose and destroyed all the 2 seed royal. But Jehosheba, the daughter of king Joram, sister of Ahaziah, took Joash the son of Ahaziah, and stole him from among the king’s sons who were *to be* slain; and they hid him, even him and his nurse, in the bed-chamber,
 3 from Athaliah, so that he was not slain. And he was with her hid in the house of Jehovah six years. And Athaliah
 4 reigned over the land. And in the seventh year, Jehoiada sent, and fetched the captains of hundreds over the lictors and the guards, and brought them to him into the house of Jehovah, and made a covenant with them, and took an oath of them in the house of Jehovah, and shewed them the
 5 king’s son. And he commanded them, saying, “This is the thing that ye shall do: a third part of you that enter in on
 6 the sabbath shall keep watch over the king’s house; and a third part shall be at the gate of Sur; and a third part at the gate behind the guard-house: so shall ye keep watch

over the house, for defence. And two parts of all of you ⁷ that go forth on the sabbath, shall keep watch in the house of Jehovah, about the king. And ye shall surround ⁸ the king, every man with his weapons in his hand: and he that cometh within the ranks, let him be slain; and be ye with the king as he goeth out and as he cometh in." And ⁹ the captains of hundreds did according to all things that Jehoiada the priest commanded; and they took every man his men that were to come in on the sabbath, with them that were to go out on the sabbath, and came to Jehoiada the priest. And to the captains over hundreds, the priest gave ¹⁰ king David's spears and shields, which were in the temple of Jehovah. And the guards stood, every man with his weapons ¹¹ in his hand, round about the king, from the right corner of the house to the left corner of the house, by the altar and the house. And ¹² Jehoiada brought forth the king's son, and put the crown upon him, and *gave him* the Testimony: and they made him king, and anointed him; and they clapped their hands, and said, "Long live the king!"

And Athaliah heard the noise of the guards and of the ¹³ people; and she came to the people into the house of Jehovah. And she looked, and behold, the king was standing ¹⁴ upon the *royal* pedestal, as the manner was; and the princes and the trumpeters were by the king; and all the people of the land were rejoicing, and blowing with trumpets; and Athaliah rent her clothes, and cried, "Treason! treason!" But Je- ¹⁵ hoiada the priest commanded the captains of hundreds, the officers of the host, and said unto them, "Put her forth without the ranks; and let him that followeth after her kill ¹⁶ her with the sword." (For the priest had said, "Let her not be slain in the house of Jehovah.") And they laid ¹⁷ hands on her, and she went by the way of the horse-avenue to the king's house; and there was she slain.

And Jehoiada made a covenant between Jehovah, and the ¹⁷ king, and the people, that they should be the people of Jehovah: and also *he made a covenant* between the king and the people. And all the people of the land went into the house ¹⁸ of Baal, and tore it down; his altars and his images they brake in pieces thoroughly, and slew Mattan the priest of Baal before the altars. And the priest appointed officers over the house of Jehovah. And he took the captains of ¹⁹ hundreds, and the lictors, and the guards, and all the people of the land, and they brought down the king from the house

of Jehovah, and came by the way of the gate of the guards to the king's house. And he sat on the throne of the kings.
20 And all the people of the land rejoiced ; and the city was in quiet ; and they slew Athaliah with the sword *beside* the king's house.

1 CHAP. XII.—*And* Jehoash was seven years old when
2 he began to reign. In the seventh year of Jehu, Jehoash began to reign ; and he reigned forty years in Jerusalem. And
3 his mother's name was Zibiah of Beer-sheba. And Jehoash did that which was right in the sight of Jehovah all his
4 days, so long as Jehoiada the priest instructed him. But the high places were not taken away ; the people still sacrificed and burnt incense on the high places.
5 And Jehoash said to the priests, “All the money of the consecrated things that is brought into the house of Jehovah, even each man's current money, the money at which each man is rated, *and* all the money that it cometh into any
6 man's heart to bring into the temple of Jehovah, let the priests receive it, every one of his acquaintance ; and let them repair the dilapidations of the house, wherever any
7 dilapidation shall be found.” But it was so, that in the twenty-third year of king Jehoash, the priests had not repaired the dilapidations of the house. Then king Jehoash called for Jehoiada the priest, and the *other* priests, and said unto them, “Why repair ye not the dilapidations of the house ? Now therefore ye shall no longer receive money
8 of your acquaintance ; but ye shall deliver it up, for *the repair*
9 *of* the dilapidations of the house.” And the priests consented to receive no more money of the people, neither to
10 repair the dilapidations of the house. But Jehoiada the priest took a chest, and bored a hole in the lid of it, and set it beside the altar, on the right side as one cometh into the house of Jehovah ; and the priests that kept the door put therein all the money that was brought into the house of Je-
11 hovah. And it was so, that, when they saw that there was much money in the chest, the king's scribe and the high priest came up, and they put it up in bags, and counted the
12 money that was found in the house of Jehovah. And they gave the money, when it was counted, into the hands of them that did the work, and had the oversight of the house of Jehovah ; and they gave it out to the carpenters and builders,
13 who wrought upon the house of Jehovah ; and to masons,

and hewers of stone ; and to buy timber and hewn stone, to repair the dilapidations of the house of Jehovah ; and for all that was laid out upon the house, to repair it. Howbeit,¹⁴ there were not made for the house of Jehovah, bowls of silver, snuffers, basons, trumpets, nor any vessels of gold, nor vessels of silver, out of the money that was brought into the house of Jehovah. But they gave it to the workmen,¹⁵ and repaired with it the house of Jehovah. Moreover they¹⁶ reckoned not with the men into whose hands they delivered the money to give unto the workmen, because they dealt faithfully. The trespass-money and the sin-money was not¹⁷ brought into the house of Jehovah : it was the priests'.

Then Hazael king of Syria went up, and fought against¹⁸ Gath, and took it ; and Hazaël set his face to go to Jerusalem. And Jehoash king of Judah took all the consecrated things that Jehoshaphat, and Jehoram, and Ahaziah, his fathers, kings of Judah, had consecrated, and his own consecrated things, and all the gold that was found in the treasures of the house of Jehovah, and in the king's house, and sent it to Hazaël king of Syria ; and he went away from Jerusalem.

And the rest of the acts of Joash, and all that he did, are²⁰ they not written in the book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah ?

And his servants arose, and made a conspiracy, and slew²¹ Joash, in the house upon the embankment, on the way down to Silla. For Josachar the son of Shimeath, and Jehozabad²² the son of Shomer, his servants, smote him, and he died ; and they buried him with his fathers in the city of David : and Amaziah his son reigned in his stead.

CHAP. XIII.—In the twenty-third year of Joash the¹ son of Ahaziah king of Judah, Jehoahaz the son of Jehu began to reign over Israel in Samaria ; and he reigned seventeen years. And he did that which was evil in the sight of² Jehovah, and followed the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin : he departed not from them. And the anger of Jehovah was kindled against Israel, and he delivered them into the hand of Hazaël king of Syria, and into the hand of Ben-hadad the son of Hazaël, all their³ days. And Jehoahaz besought Jehovah, and Jehovah⁴ hearkened unto him ; for he saw the oppression of Israel, because the king of Syria oppressed them. And Jehovah gave⁵

unto Israel a saviour, so that they went forth from under the hand of the Syrians ; and the children of Israel dwelt in their tents as in former times. Nevertheless they departed not from the sins of the house of Jeroboam, who made Israel to sin, *but* walked in them ; moreover the image of Ashera was kept standing in Samaria. And there were left unto Jehoahaz, of the people, but fifty horsemen, and ten chariots, and ten thousand footmen ; for the king of Syria had destroyed them, and made them like the dust by threshing.

Now the rest of the acts of Jehoahaz, and all that he did, and his might, are they not written in the book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel ?

And Jehoahaz slept with his fathers, and they buried him in Samaria : and Joash his son reigned in his stead.

In the thirty-seventh year of Joash king of Judah, Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz began to reign over Israel in Samaria ; and he reigned sixteen years. And he did that which was evil in the sight of Jehovah ; he departed not from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin ; but walked therein.

And the rest of the acts of Joah, and all that he did, and his might wherewith he fought against Amaziah king of Judah, are they not written in the book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel ?

And Joash slept with his fathers ; and Jerobeam sat upon his throne ; and Joash was buried in Samaria with the kings of Israel.

Now Elisha was fallen sick of the sickness whereof he died : and Joash the king of Israel came down unto him, and wept over his face, and said, " O my father, my father ! the chariot of Israel, and the steeds thereof !" And Elisha said unto him, " Take bow and arrows." And he took unto him bow and arrows. And he said unto the king of Israel, " Put thine hand upon the bow." And he put his hand upon it : and Elisha put his hands upon the king's hands. And he said, " Open the window toward the east." And he opened it. Then Elisha said, " Shoot." And he shot. And Elisha said, " The arrow of Jehovah's deliverance, yea the arrow of deliverance from Syria ! for thou shalt smite the Assyrians in Aphek, till thou have consumed them." And he said, " Take the arrows." And he took them. And he said unto

the king of Israel, “Smite upon the ground.” And he smote thrice, and stayed. And the man of God was wroth ¹⁹ with him, and said, “Thou shouldest have smitten five or six times: then hadst thou smitten Syria till thou hadst consumed it; whereas now thou shalt smite Syria *but* thrice.”

And Elisha died, and they buried him. And the bands of ²⁰ the Moabites invaded the land at the beginning of the year. And it came to pass that they were burying a man, and, ²¹ behold, they spied a band of *Moabites*. And they cast the man into the sepulchre of Elisha; and when the man was let down, and had touched the bones of Elisha, he revived, and stood on his feet.

But Hazael king of Syria oppressed Israel all the days of ²² Jehoahaz. And Jehovah was gracious unto them, and had ²³ compassion on them, and had respect unto them, because of his covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; and would not destroy them; neither did he cast them from his presence yet. And Hazael king of Syria died; and Ben-hadad his ²⁴ son reigned in his stead. And Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz took again out of the hand of Ben-hadad the son of Hazael, the cities which he had taken out of the hand of Jehoahaz his father by war. Three times did Joash beat him; and he recovered the cities of Israel.

CHAP XIV.—In the second year of Joash the son of ¹ Joahaz king of Israel, Amaziah, the son of Joash king of Judah, began to reign. He was five-and-twenty years old ² when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. And his mother’s name was Jehoaddan of Jerusalem. And he did that which was right in the sight of ³ Jehovah; yet not like David his father. He did according to all that Joash his father had done. Only the high places ⁴ were not taken away; as yet the people offered sacrifice and burned incense on the high places.

And it came to pass, as soon as the kingdom was confirmed ⁵ in his hand, that he slew his servants who had slain the king his father. But the children of the murderers he slew not; ⁶ according unto that which is written in the book of the Law of Moses, “The fathers shall not be put to death for the children, nor shall the children be put to death for the fathers; but every man shall be put to death for his own sin.” He slew ten thousand men of Edom in the valley ⁷

of salt ; and he took Selah by war, and called the name of it Joktheel unto this day.

8 Then Amaziah sent messengers to Jehoash, the son of Jehoahaz, the son of Jehu, king of Israel, saying, "Come, let us look one another in the face." And Jehoash king of Israel sent to Amaziah king of Judah, saying, "The thistle that was in Lebanon sent to the cedar that was in Lebanon, saying, 'Give thy daughter to my son, to wife.' And there passed by a wild beast that was in Lebanon, and trampled down the thistle. Thou hast indeed smitten Edom, and thine heart hath lifted thee up : glory *in this*, and tarry at home : for why shouldst thou meddle to *thy* hurt, that thou shouldst fall ; even thou, and Judah with thee ?" But Amaziah would not hear. Therefore Jehoash king of Israel went up ; and he and Amaziah king of Judah looked one another in the face at Beth-shemesh, which belongeth to Judah. And Judah was smitten down before Israel ; and they fled, every man to their tents. And Jehoash king of Israel took Amaziah king of Judah, the son of Jehoash, the son of Ahaziah, at Beth-shemesh ; and he came to Jerusalem, and battered down the wall of Jerusalem, from the gate of Ephraim unto the gate of the corner-tower, four hundred cubits. And he took all the gold and silver, and all the vessels that were found in the house of Jehovah, and in the treasures of the king's house, and the hostages ; and returned to Samaria.

15 And the rest of the acts of Jehoash which he did, and his might, and how he fought with Amaziah king of Judah, are they not written in the book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel ?

16 And Jehoash slept with his fathers, and was buried in Samaria with the kings of Israel ; and Jeroboam his son reigned in his stead.

17 And Amaziah the son of Joash the king of Judah, lived after the death of Jehoash son of Jehoahaz king of Israel, fifteen years.

18 And the rest of the acts of Amaziah, are they not written in the book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah ?

19 And they made a conspiracy against him in Jerusalem ; and he fled to Lachish : but they sent after him to Lachish, and slew him there. And they brought him on horses ; and he was buried in Jerusalem with his fathers, in the city of David.

21 And all the people of Judah took Azariah who was sixteen

years old, and made him king, instead of his father Amaziah. He built Elath and restored it to Judah, after that the king slept with his fathers.

In the fifteenth year of Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah, Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel, began to reign in Samaria, and he reigned forty-one years. And he did that which was evil in the sight of Jehovah. He departed not from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat who made Israel to sin. He restored the border of Israel from the approach to Hamath even to the Sea of the Plain; according to the word of Jehovah the God of Israel, which he spake by his servant Jonah the son of Amitai, the prophet who was of Gath-hepher. For Jehovah saw the affliction of Israel, that it was very bitter; for there was none left, neither young child nor grown man; neither was there any helper for Israel. Yet Jehovah said that he would not blot out the name of Israel from under heaven: but he saved them by the hand of Jeroboam the son of Joash.

And the rest of the acts of Jeroboam, even all that he did, and his might, how he warred, and how he recovered Damascus, and Hamath, and all as far as Judah, unto Israel, are they not written in the book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel?

And Jeroboam slept with his fathers, even with the kings of Israel: and Zechariah his son reigned in his stead.

CHAP. XV.—In the twenty-seventh year of Jeroboam king of Israel, Azariah the son of Amaziah king of Judah began to reign. He was sixteen years old when he began to reign; and he reigned fifty-two years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jecholiah of Jerusalem. And he did that which was right in the sight of Jehovah, according to all that his father Amaziah had done. Only the high places were not taken away; the people still offered sacrifice and burned incense on the high places.

And Jehovah smote the king, so that he was a leper unto the day of his death; and he dwelt in a separate house. And Jotham the king's son was over the house, judging the people of the land.

And the rest of the acts of Azariah, even all that he did, are they not written in the book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah?

7 And Azariah slept with his fathers ; and they buried him with his fathers, in the city of David ; and Jotham his son reigned in his stead.

8 In the thirty-eighth year of Azariah king of Judah, Zechariah the son of Jeroboam reigned over Israel in Samaria, six months. And he did that which was evil in the sight of Jehovah as his fathers had done : he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin. And Shallum the son of Jabesh conspired against him, 11 and smote him before the people, and slew him, and reigned in his stead. And the rest of the acts of Zechariah, behold, 12 they are written in the book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel. This was the word of Jehovah which he spake unto Jehu, saying, “ Thy sons shall sit on the throne of Israel unto the fourth generation.” And so it came to pass.

13 Shallum the son of Jabesh began to reign in the thirty-ninth year of Azariah king of Judah ; and he reigned a month 14 in Samaria. For Menahem the son of Gadi went up from Tirzah, and came to Samaria, and smote Shallum the son of Jabesh in Samaria, and slew him, and reigned in his stead.

15 And the rest of the acts of Shallum, and his conspiracy which he made, behold, they are written in the book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel.

16 At that time Menahem smote Tiphasach, and all that were thereina, and the borders thereof, from Tirzah ; because it opened not *its gates to him*, therefore he smote it ; and all the women therein that were with child, he ripped up.

17 In the thirty-ninth year of Azariah king of Judah, Menahem the son of Gadi began to reign over Israel, *and he reigned* ten years in Samaria. And he did that which was evil in the sight of Jehovah : he departed not, all his days, from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made 19 Israel to sin. And Pul the king of Assyria came against the land ; and Menahem gave unto Pul a thousand talents of silver, that his hand might be with him, to confirm the 20 kingdom in his hand. And Menahem exacted the money from Israel, even from all the mighty men of wealth, from each man fifty shekels of silver, to give to the king of Assyria. So the king of Assyria turned back, and remained not there in the land.

And the rest of the acts of Menahem, and all that he did, 21
are they not written in the book of the Annals of the Kings
of Israel?

And Menahem slept with his fathers; and Pekahiah his 22
son reigned in his stead.

In the fiftieth year of Azariah king of Judah, Pekahiah 23
the son of Menahem began to reign over Israel in Samaria;
and he reigned two years. And he did that which was evil 24
in the sight of Jehovah; he departed not from the sins of
Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin. And 25
Pekah the son of Remaliah, one of his captains, with *them*
of Argob and Arieh, conspired against him, and smote him
in Samaria in the citadel of the king's house; (and along
with him were fifty men of the Gileadites;) and he killed
him, and reigned in his stead.

And the rest of the acts of Pekahiah, and all that he did, 26
behold, they are written in the book of the Annals of the
Kings of Israel.

In the fifty-second year of Azariah king of Judah, 27
Pekah the son of Remaliah began to reign over Israel in
Samaria; *and he reigned* twenty years. And he did that 28
which was evil in the sight of Jehovah; he departed not
from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made
Israel to sin. In the days of Pekah king of Israel, Tiglath- 29
pileser king of Assyria came, and took Ijon, and Abel-beth-
maachah, and Janoah, and Kedesh, and Hazor, and Gilead,
and Galilee, *and* all the land of Naphtali; and carried *the*
people thereof captive to Assyria. And Hoshea the son of 30
Elah made a conspiracy against Pekah the son of Remaliah,
and smote him, and slew him, and reigned in his stead, in the
twentieth year of Jotham the son of Uzziah.

And the rest of the acts of Pekah, and all that he did, 31
behold, they are written in the book of the Annals of the
Kings of Israel.

In the second year of Pekah the son of Remaliah king of 32
Israel, Jotham the son of Uzziah, king of Judah, began to
reign. He was five-and-twenty years old when he began to 33
reign; and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem. And his
mother's name was Jerusha, the daughter of Zadok. And 34
he did that which was right in the sight of Jehovah; he did

35 according to all that his father Uzziah had done. Howbeit the high places were not removed ; the people offered sacrifice and burned incense still upon the high places. He built the upper gate of the house of Jehovah.

36 And the rest of the acts of Jotham, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah ?

37 In those days Jehovah began to send against Judah, Rezin the king of Syria, and Pekah the son of Remaliah.

38 And Jotham slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers, in the city of David his father. And Ahaz his son reigned in his stead.

1 CHAP. XVI.—In the seventeenth year of Pekah the son of Remaliah, Ahaz the son of Jotham king of Judah began 2 to reign. Ahaz was twenty years old when he began to reign ; and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem : and he did not that which was right in the sight of Jehovah his 3 God, like David his father. But he walked in the way of the kings of Israel ; yea, and he made his son to pass through the fire, according to the abominations of the heathen, whom 4 Jehovah had cast out before the children of Israel. And he offered sacrifice and burned incense upon the high places, and on the hills, and under every green tree.

5 Then Rezin king of Syria and Pekah the son of Remaliah, king of Israel, came up to Jerusalem to war ; and they 6 besieged Ahaz, but were not able to overcome him. At that time Rezin king of Syria recovered Elath to Syria, and drove out the Jews from Elath ; and Syrians came to Elath ; 7 and they dwell there unto this day. And Ahaz sent messengers to Tiglath-pileser king of Assyria, saying, “I am thy servant and thy son ; come up, and save me out of the hand of the king of Syria, and out of the hand of the king of 8 Israel, who have risen up against me.” And Ahaz took the silver and gold that was found in the house of Jehovah, and in the treasures of the king’s house, and sent it for a present 9 to the king of Assyria. And the king of Assyria hearkened unto him : and the king of Assyria went up against Damascus, and took it, and carried the people of it captive to Kir, and slew Rezin.

10 And king Ahaz went to Damascus to meet Tiglath-pileser king of Assyria ; and he saw the altar that was in Damascus. And king Ahaz sent to Urijah the priest a likeness of the

altar, and a pattern of it, according to all the workmanship thereof. And Urijah the priest built an altar; according to ¹¹ all that king Ahaz had sent from Damascus, so did Urijah the priest, against the coming of king Ahaz from Damascus. And when the king was come from Damascus, the king saw ¹² the altar; and the king drew nigh unto the altar, and offered sacrifice thereon. And he burned his burnt-offering and his ¹³ meal-offering, and poured out his libation, and sprinkled the blood of his thank-offering upon the altar. And he brought ¹⁴ also the brazen altar which was before *the house of Jehovah*, from the fore-front of the house, from between *the new altar* and the house of Jehovah, and put it on the north side of *the new altar*. And king Ahaz commanded Urijah the priest, say- ¹⁵ ing, “Upon the great altar burn the morning burnt-offering, and the evening meal-offering, and the king’s burnt-offering, and his meal-offering, with the burnt-offering of all the people of the land, and their meal-offering, and their libations; and sprinkle upon it all the blood of the burnt-offering, and all the blood of the sacrifice. And I will consider about the brazen altar.” And Urijah the priest did according to all ¹⁶ that king Ahaz commanded. And king Ahaz cut out the ¹⁷ panels of the laver-stands in *the temple*, and removed the lavers from them; and he took down the sea from the brazen oxen that were under it, and put it upon a stone pedestal. And the sabbath-portico which they had built in ¹⁸ the house, and the king’s passage outwards, he removed from the house of Jehovah, for the king of Assyria.

And the rest of the acts of Ahaz which he did, are they not ¹⁹ written in the book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah?

And Ahaz slept with his fathers, and was buried with his ²⁰ fathers, in the city of David: and Hezekiah his son reigned in his stead.

CHAP. XVII.—In the twelfth year of Ahaz king of ¹ Judah, Hoshea the son of Elah began to reign in Samaria over Israel: and he reigned nine years. And he did that ² which was evil in the sight of Jehovah; yet not as the kings of Israel that were before him. Against him came up Shal- ³ manezer king of Assyria; and Hoshea became his servant and gave him presents. And the king of Assyria discovered ⁴ treachery in Hoshea; for he had sent messengers to So king of Egypt, and brought no present to the king of Assyria as he had done year by year: therefore the king of Assyria shut

5 him up and bound him in prison. And the king of Assyria went up all over the land, and went up to Samaria, and besieged it three years. In the ninth year of Hoshea, the king of Assyria took Samaria, and carried Israel away into Assyria, and placed them in Halah, and by Habor the river of Gozan, 7 and in the cities of the Medes. For so it was that the children of Israel had sinned against Jehovah their God, who had brought them up out of the land of Egypt, from under the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt; and had feared other 8 gods, and had walked in the statutes of the heathen, whom Jehovah had cast out from before the children of Israel, and 9 in those of the kings of Israel, which they had made. And the children of Israel did secretly those things which were not right against Jehovah their God; for they built for themselves high places in all their cities, from the tower of the 10 watchmen to the fortified city; and they set up for themselves images and standing pillars, on every high hill and 11 under every green tree; and there they burned incense on all the high places, as did the heathen whom Jehovah carried away before them; and wrought wicked things to provoke 12 Jehovah to anger: for they served idols, whereof Jehovah 13 had said unto them, "Ye shall not do this thing." Yet Jehovah testified against Israel, and against Judah, by all the prophets, and all the seers, saying, "Turn ye from your evil ways, and keep my commandments, and my statutes, according to all the law which I commanded your fathers, and which I sent unto you by my servants the prophets." Notwithstanding they would not hear, but hardened their necks, like unto the neck of their fathers, who 15 did not believe in Jehovah their God. And they rejected his statutes, and his covenant which he had made with their fathers, and his testimonies which he testified against them; and they followed vanity, and became vain; and went after the heathen who were round about them, concerning whom Jehovah had charged them that they should not do 16 like unto them. And they left all the commandments of Jehovah their God; and made unto themselves molten images, even two calves, and made images of Ashera, and worshipped 17 all the host of heaven, and served Baal. And they caused their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire; and used divination and enchantments; and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of Jehovah, to provoke him to anger. 18 Therefore Jehovah was very angry with Israel, and removed

them out of his sight ; there was none left but the tribe of Judah only. Even Judah kept not the commandments of 19 Jehovah their God, but walked in the statutes of Israel which they had made. And Jehovah rejected all the seed of Israel 20 and afflicted them, and delivered them into the hand of spoilers, until he had cast them out of his sight. For he rent Israel 21 from the house of David ; and they made Jeroboam the son of Nebat king ; and Jeroboam drew away Israel from following Jehovah, and made them commit a great sin. For the 22 children of Israel walked in all the sins of Jeroboam which he did ; they departed not from them, until Jehovah moved 23 Israel out of his sight, as he had said by all his servants the prophets. So was Israel carried away out of their own land to Assyria, unto this day.

And the king of Assyria brought men from Babylon, and 24 from Cuthah, and from Avva, and from Hamath ; and Sepharvaites ; and placed them in the cities of Samaria instead of the children of Israel ; and they possessed Samaria, and dwelt in the cities thereof. And it came to pass at the beginning 25 of their dwelling there, that they feared not Jehovah ; therefore Jehovah sent lions among them, which slew some of them. And they spake unto the king of Assyria, 26 saying, "The nations which thou hast removed, and placed in the cities of Samaria, know not the manner of the god of the land : therefore he hath sent lions among them, and, behold, they slay them, because they know not the manner of the god of the land." And the king of Assyria commanded, 27 saying, "Carry thither one of the priests whom ye brought away thence ; and let them go and dwell there ; and let him teach them the manner of the god of the land." And one of the priests whom they had carried away from 28 Samaria came and dwelt in Bethel, and told them how they should fear Jehovah. Howbeit, every nation made gods of 29 their own, and put them in the houses on the high places which the Samaritans had made, every nation in their own cities wherein they dwelt. And the men of Babylon made 30 the *idol* of the tabernacles for damsels, and the men of Cuth made Nergal, and the men of Hamath made Ashima, and 31 the Avvites made Nibhaz and Tartak, and the Sepharvaites burned their children in fire to Adraminelech and Anammelech, the gods of the Sepharvaites. So they feared Jehovah ; 32 and they made unto themselves of the lowest among them priests of the high places, who offered sacrifice for them in the

33 houses of the high places. They feared Jehovah, and served their own gods, after the manner of the nations from which
34 they had been removed. Unto this day they do after the former manners ; they fear Jehovah, and they do neither after their own statutes, and their own ordinances, nor after the law and the commandment which Jehovah commanded the children
35 of Jacob, whom he named Israel ; with whom Jehovah made a covenant, and charged them, saying, " Ye shall not fear other gods, nor bow yourselves down to them, nor serve them,
36 nor offer sacrifice unto them ; but Jehovah, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt with great power and with an outstretched arm, him shall ye fear, and him shall ye worship,
37 and to him shall ye offer sacrifice. And the statutes, and the ordinances, and the law, and the commandment, which he wrote for you, ye shall observe to do for evermore ; and ye shall
38 not fear other gods. And the covenant which I have made with you ye shall not forget, neither shall ye fear other gods.
39 But Jehovah your God ye shall fear ; and he shall deliver you
40 out of the hand of all your enemies." Howbeit they did not
41 hearken, but they did after their former manner. So these nations feared Jehovah, and served their graven images, both their children, and their children's children : as did their fathers, so do they unto this day.

1 CHAP. XVIII.—And it came to pass in the third year of Hoshea the son of Elah king of Israel, that Hezekiah
2 the son of Ahaz king of Judah began to reign. He was twenty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem ; and his mother's
3 name was Abi, the daughter of Zechariah. And he did that which was right in the sight of Jehovah, according
4 to all that David his father had done. He removed the high places, and brake the images, and cut down the image of Ashera, and brake in pieces the brazen serpent which Moses had made : for until those days the children of Israel burned incense unto it ; and it was called Nehushtan
5 [BRAZEN.] He trusted in Jehovah the God of Israel ; so that after him there was none like him among all the kings of Judah ; neither had there been any, among those that were
6 before him. For he clave to Jehovah, and departed not from following him, but kept his commandments, which Jehovah
7 commanded Moses. And Jehovah was with him ; and he prospered whithersoever he went forth ; and he rebelled

against the king of Assyria, and served him not. He smote ⁸ the Philistines even unto Gaza, and the borders thereof, from the tower of the watchmen to the fortified city.

And it came to pass in the fourth year of king Hezekiah, ⁹ which was the seventh year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, that Shalmanezer king of Assyria came up against Samaria, and besieged it. And at the end of three years it ¹⁰ was taken; in the sixth year of Hezekiah, which was the ninth of Hoshea king of Israel, Samaria was taken. And the king ¹¹ of Assyria carried away Israel unto Assyria, and put them in Halah, and by Habor the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes: because they obeyed not the voice of Jehovah ¹² their God, but transgressed his covenant in all things which Moses the servant of Jehovah had commanded: and would not hear them, nor do them.

And in the fourteenth year of king Hezekiah, Sennacherib ¹³ king of Assyria came up against all the fortified cities of Judah, and took them. And Hezekiah king of Judah sent ¹⁴ to the king of Assyria to Lachish, saying, "I have offended; return from me; that which thou layest on me I will bear." And the king of Assyria laid on Hezekiah king of Judah, ^{a fine} of three hundred talents of silver and thirty talents of gold. And Hezekiah gave unto him all the silver that was ¹⁵ found in the house of Jehovah, and in the treasures of the king's house. At that time Hezekiah stripped the doors of ¹⁶ the temple of Jehovah, and the columns which Hezekiah king of Judah had overlaid, and gave *the gold* to the king of Assyria.

And the king of Assyria sent Tartan and Rab-saris and ¹⁷ Rab-shakeh from Lachish to king Hezekiah, with a great host against Jerusalem: and they went up and came to Jerusalem. And when they were come up, they came and stood by the aqueduct of the upper reservoir, which is in the high-way of the Fuller's Field. And they called to the ¹⁸ king; and there came out to them Eliakim the son of Hilkiah who was over the household, and Shebna the secretary, and Joah the son of Asaph, the remembrancer. And Rab- ¹⁹ shakeh said unto them, "Speak ye now to Hezekiah, 'Thus saith the great king, the king of Assyria, What confidence is this wherein thou trustest? Thou sayest, (but they are ²⁰ vain words), Counsel and strength suffice for war. Now on whom dost thou trust that thou rebellest against me? Now behold thou reliest upon the staff of this broken reed, ²¹ even upon Egypt, on which if any man lean, it will go into

his hand and pierce it: so is Pharaoh king of Egypt unto
22 all that trust in him. But if ye say unto me, We trust in
Jehovah our God, is not that he whose high places and
whose altars Hezekiah hath taken away; and hath said to
Judah and Jerusalem, Ye shall worship before this altar in
23 Jerusalem? Now therefore I pray thee, give pledges to
my lord the king of Assyria, and I will deliver unto thee
two thousand horses, if thou be able on thy part to set riders
24 upon them. How then wilt thou turn away the face of
one captain of the least of my master's servants, and put
25 thy trust in Egypt for chariots and for horsemen? Am I
now come up without Jehovah against this place to destroy
it? Jehovah hath said unto me, Go up against this land
26 and destroy it." Then said Eliakim the son of Hilkiah,
and Shebna, and Joah, unto Rab-shakeh, " Speak, we pray
thee, unto thy servants in the Aramean language, for we
understand it; and speak not with us in the Jewish language
27 in the hearing of the people that are on the wall." But
Rab-shakeh said unto them, " Hath my master sent me to
thy master, and to thee, to speak these words? Hath he
not sent me to the men who sit on the wall, to eat their own
28 dung and drink their own urine with you?" Then Rab-
shakeh stood and cried with a loud voice in the Jewish lan-
guage, and spake, saying, " Hear the word of the great king,
29 the king of Assyria: Thus saith the king, ' Let not Hezekiah
deceive you, for he shall not be able to deliver you out of
30 my hand; neither let Hezekiah make you trust in Jehovah,
saying, Jehovah will surely deliver us, and this city shall
31 not be given up to the king of Assyria. Hearken not to
Hezekiah: for thus saith the king of Assyria; Make *sub-
mission* to me by a present, and come forth to me; and *then*
eat ye every man of his own vine, and every man of his own
fig-tree, and drink ye every one the waters of his own cis-
32 tern: until I come and take you away to a land like unto
your own land, a land of corn and wine, a land of bread and
vineyards, a land of olive-oil and of honey, that ye may live
and not die: and hearken not unto Hezekiah when he per-
33 suadeth you, saying, Jehovah will deliver us. Hath any
of the gods of the nations delivered his land out of
34 the hand of the king of Assyria? Where are the gods
of the Hamath and of Arpad? Where are the gods
of the Sepharvaites, of Hena, and of Avvah? have
35 they delivered Samaria out of mine hand? Who are

they among all the gods of those lands that have delivered their land out of mine hand, that Jehovah should deliver Jerusalem out of mine hand?"³⁶ But the people held their peace and answered him not a word; for there was a commandment from the king, saying, "Answer him not." Then ³⁷ came Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, who was over the household, and Shebna the secretary, and Joah the son of Asaph the remembrancer, to Hezekiah with their clothes rent; and told him the words of Rab-shakeh.

CHAP. XIX.—And it came to pass, when king Hezekiah ¹ heard *them*, that he rent his clothes, and covered himself with sack-cloth, and went into the house of Jehovah. And ² he sent Eliakim who was over the household, and Shebna the secretary, and the elders of the priests, covered with sack-cloth, to Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz. And they ³ said unto him, "Thus saith Hezekiah, 'This is a day of trouble, and of rebuke, and of scoffing; for the children are come to the birth, and there is not strength to bring forth. It may be that Jehovah thy God will hear all the words of ⁴ Rab-shakeh, whom the king of Assyria his master hath sent to reproach the living God; and will reprove the words which Jehovah thy God hath heard; wherefore lift up thy prayer for the remnant that are left.'"⁵ So the servants of king Hezekiah came to Isaiah. And Isaiah said unto them, ⁶ "Thus shall ye say to your master; 'Thus saith Jehovah, Be not afraid because of the words which thou hast heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed me. Behold I will send a blast upon him, and he ⁷ shall hear a rumour, and shall return to his own land; and I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land.'"⁸

So Rab-shakeh returned, and found the king of Assyria ⁹ warring against Libnah; for he had heard that he had departed from Lachish. And he heard concerning Tirhakah, the king of Cush, saying, "Behold he is come forth to fight against thee;" and he sent messengers again to Hezekiah, saying, "Thus shall ye speak to Hezekiah king of Judah, ¹⁰ saying, 'Let not thy God in whom thou trustest deceive thee saying, Jerusalem shall not be delivered into the hand of the king of Assyria. Behold thou hast heard what the kings of ¹¹ Assyria have done to all lands, by destroying them utterly: and shalt thou be delivered? Have the gods of the nations ¹² which my fathers destroyed, delivered them; as Gozan and

Haran, and Rezeph, and the children of Eden who *dwelt* in
 13 Thelassar? Where is the king of Hamath, and the king of
 Arpad, and the king of the city of the Sepharvaites, *and the
 kings* of Hena and of Avvah?"

14 And Hezekiah received the letters from the hand of the messengers, and read them: and Hezekiah went up into the 15 house of Jehovah, to spread them before Jehovah. And Hezekiah prayed before Jehovah, and said, "O Jehovah God of Israel, who dwellest between the cherubs, thou art God, even thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; thou 16 hast made the heavens and the earth. O Jehovah, bow down thine ear, and hear; open, O Jehovah, thine eyes, and see; and hear the word of Sennacherib, which he hath 17 sent to reproach the living God. Of a truth, O Jehovah, the kings of Assyria have destroyed the nations and their 18 lands, and have cast their gods into the fire: for they were no gods, but the work of men's hands, wood and stone; 19 therefore they have destroyed them. Now, therefore, O Jehovah our God, I beseech thee, save us out of his hand; that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that thou, O Jehovah, art God, *even thou only.*"

20 Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, "Thus saith Jehovah the God of Israel; 'That which thou hast prayed to me concerning Sennacherib king of Assyria, 21 I have heard. *And* this is the word which Jehovah hath spoken concerning him.

She hath despised thee, she hath laughed thee to scorn,
 The virgin daughter of Zion!
 At thee hath she shaken her head,
 The daughter of Jerusalem!

22 Whom hast thou reproached and blasphemed,
 And against whom hast thou exalted thy voice,
 And lifted up thine eyes on high?
 Against the Holy One of Israel!

23 By thy messengers hast thou reproached the Lord,
 and hast said,—
 With the multitude of my chariots am I come up,
 To the height of the mountains, to the sides of Lebanon;
 And I will cut down its tallest cedars, its choicest cypress trees:

And I will enter into its remotest retreats,
Even into the thicket of its gardens.

I have digged and drunk strange waters,
And I have dried up with the sole of my foot
All the canals of Egypt.

Hast thou not heard long ago, how I have done it,
And of ancient times that I have planned it ?
Now I have brought it to pass, that thou shouldest be
To lay fortified cities waste, as ruinous heaps.
Therefore were their inhabitants of little strength ;
They were dismayed and confounded :
They were as the grass of the field and the green herb ;
As the grass on the house-tops,
Blasted even before it is grown up.

But thy abode, and thy going out, and thy coming
in, I have known,
And thy rage against me.

Because thy rage against me
And thine insolence are come up into mine ears,
Therefore I will put my hook in thy nose,
And my bridle in thy lips.
And I will send thee back by the way by which thou
camest.

And this shall be the sign unto thee :—
Eat this year that which seeded itself,
And in the second year the wild herb ;
But in the third year sow ye and reap,
And plant vineyards, and eat the produce.
For again shall the delivered remnant of the house of 30
Judah

Strike root downward, and bear fruit upward.
For out of Jerusalem shall go forth a remnant,
And a delivered band out of Mount Zion,
The zeal of Jehovah shall accomplish this.

Therefore thus saith Jehovah concerning the king 32
of Assyria,
He shall not come into this city,
Nor shall he shoot an arrow there ;
Neither shall he present a shield before it,
Nor cast up a mound against it.

33 By the way that he came, by the same shall he return,
For into this city he shall not come, saith Jehovah.
34 For I will defend this city, for mine own sake,
And for the sake of David my servant.””

35 And it came to pass that night, that the angel of Jehovah went forth, and smote, in the camp of the Assyrians, a hundred and eighty-five thousand ; and when men awoke in the 36 morning, behold all of these were dead corpses. And Sennacherib king of Assyria departed, and went back, and dwelt 37 in Nineveh. And it came to pass, as he was worshipping in the house of Nisroch his god, that Adrammelech and Sharezer his sons smote him with the sword ; and they escaped into the land of Ararat. And Esar-haddon his son reigned in his stead.

1 CHAP. XX.—In those days, Hezekiah was sick unto death. And Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, came to him and said unto him, “Thus saith Jehovah, ‘Set thy 2 house in order, for thou shalt die, and not live.’” And he turned his face to the wall, and prayed unto Jehovah, 3 saying, “O Jehovah ! remember now, I beseech thee, how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in thy sight.” And 4 Hezekiah wept sore. And it came to pass, before Isaiah had gone out into the middle court, that the word of 5 Jehovah came to him, saying, “Return and tell Hezekiah the captain of my people, ‘Thus saith Jehovah, the God of David thy father ; I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears ; behold, I will heal thee : on the third day thou 6 shalt go up into the house of Jehovah. And I will add unto thy days fifteen years : and I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria ; and I will protect this city for mine own sake, and for the sake of my servant David.’” And Isaiah said, “Take a cake of figs.” And they took it, and laid it on the ulcer ; and he recovered. 8 And Hezekiah said unto Isaiah, “What shall be the sign that Jehovah will heal me, and that I shall go up into the 9 house of Jehovah the third day ?” And Isaiah said, “This sign shalt thou have from Jehovah, that Jehovah will do the thing which he hath spoken. Shall the shadow go forward 10 ten degrees, or go back ten degrees ?” And Hezekiah said, “It is a small thing for the shadow to go down ten degrees ;

nay, but let the shadow return backward ten degrees." And ¹¹ Isaiah the prophet cried unto Jehovah; and he brought the shadow backward ten degrees, by which it had gone down upon the sun-dial of Ahaz.

At that time Berodach-Baladan, the son of Baladan, king ¹² of Babylon, sent letters and a present to Hezekiah; for he had heard that Hezekiah had been sick. And Hezekiah was ¹³ glad of their *coming*, and shewed them all the house of his precious things; the silver, and the gold, and the spices, and the precious ointment; and all the house of his armour; and all that was found in his treasures; there was nothing in his house, nor in all his dominion, that Hezekiah did not shew unto them. And Isaiah the prophet came unto king Heze- ¹⁴ kiah and said unto him, "What said these men, and whence came they unto thee?" And Hezekiah said, "They are come from a far country, *even* from Babylon." And he said, ¹⁵ "What have they seen in thy house?" And Hezekiah said, "All the things that are in my house have they seen; there is nothing among my treasures that I have not shewed unto them." And Isaiah said unto Hezekiah, "Hear the ¹⁶ word of Jehovah. Behold, the days are coming that all that ¹⁷ is in thy house, and *all* that thy fathers have laid up in store unto this day, shall be carried into Babylon: nothing shall be left, saith Jehovah. And *some* of thy sons who ¹⁸ shall issue from thee, whom thou shalt beget, they shall take away, and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon." And Hezekiah said unto Isaiah, "Good is ¹⁹ the word of Jehovah, which thou hast spoken." And he said, "Is it not *good*, if peace and truth be in my days?"

And the rest of the acts of Hezekiah, and all his might, ²⁰ and how he made the reservoir, and the aqueduct, and brought water into the city, are they not written in the book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah?

And Hezekiah slept with his fathers, and Manasseh his ²¹ son reigned in his stead.

CHAP. XXI.—Manasseh was twelve years old when ¹ he began to reign, and he reigned fifty-five years in Je-
rusalem. And his mother's name was Hephzibah. And he ² did that which was evil in the sight of Jehovah, according to the abominations of the heathen, whom Jehovah had cast out before the children of Israel. And he built again the ³ high places which Hezekiah his father had destroyed; and

he reared up altars unto Baal, and he made an *image of Ashera*, as Ahab the king of Israel had done; and he worshipped all the host of heaven, and served them. And he built altars in the house of Jehovah, concerning which Jehovah had said, "In Jerusalem I will put my name;" yea he built altars for all the host of heaven in the two courts of the house of Jehovah. And he made his son to pass through the fire, and used sorcery, and enchantments, and dealt with necromancers and wizards. He wrought much wickedness in the sight of Jehovah, to provoke him to anger. And he set the carved image of Ashera which he had made, in the house, of which Jehovah had said unto David, and unto Solomon his son, "In this house, and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, I will put my name for ever; neither will I make the feet of Israel to move any more out of the land which I gave unto their fathers; if they will only observe and do according to all that I have commanded them, and according to all the law that my servant Moses commanded them." But they hearkened not; and Manasseh enticed them to do more evil than the nations had done, whom Jehovah destroyed before the children of Israel.

10 And Jehovah spake by his servants the prophets, saying,
11 "Because Manasseh king of Judah hath done these abominations, and hath done wickedly above all that the Amorites did, who were before him, and hath made Judah also to sin
12 with his idols, therefore thus saith Jehovah the God of Israel, 'Behold, I am bringing such evil upon Jerusalem and Judah,
13 that whosoever heareth of it, both his ears shall tingle. And I will stretch over Jerusalem the line of Samaria, and the plummet of the house of Ahab; and I will wipe out Jerusalem as one wipeth a dish, wiping it out, and turning it upside down. And I will forsake the remnant of mine inheritance, and deliver them into the hand of their enemies; and they
15 shall become a prey and a spoil to all their enemies; because they have done that which was evil in my sight, and have provoked me to anger, from the day that their fathers came forth out of Egypt, even unto this day.'" Moreover, Manasseh
shed innocent blood, very much, till he had filled Jerusalem from one end to another; beside his sin wherewith he made Judah to sin, in doing that which was evil in the sight of Jehovah.

17 And the rest of the acts of Manasseh, and all that he did,

and his sin that he sinned, are they not written in the book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah?

And Manasseh slept with his fathers, and was buried in ¹⁸ the garden of his own house, in the garden of Uzza; and Amon his son reigned in his stead.

Amon was twenty-two years old when he began to ¹⁹ reign; and he reigned two years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Meshullemeth, the daughter of Haruz of Jotbah. And he did that which was evil in the sight of ²⁰ Jehovah, as his father Manasseh had done. And he walked ²¹ in all the way in which his father had walked; and served the idols that his father served, and worshipped them. And ²² he forsook Jehovah the God of his fathers, and walked not in the way of Jehovah. And the servants of Amon conspired ²³ against him, and slew the king in his own house. And the ²⁴ people of the land slew all them that had conspired against king Amon; and the people of the land made Josiah his son king in his stead.

And the rest of the acts of Amon that he did, are they ²⁵ not written in the book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah?

And he was buried in his sepulchre in the garden of Uzza; ²⁶ and Josiah his son reigned in his stead.

CHAP. XXII.—Josiah was eight years old when he ¹ began to reign, and he reigned thirty-one years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jedidah, the daughter of Adaiah of Boscath. And he did that which was right in the sight ² of Jehovah, and walked in all the ways of David his father, and turned not aside to the right hand or to the left.

And it came to pass in the eighteenth year of king ³ Josiah, that the king sent Shaphan the son of Azaliah the son of Meshullam, the secretary, to the house of Jehovah, saying, “Go up to Hilkiah the high priest, that he may sum ⁴ up the silver which is brought into the house of Jehovah, which the keepers of the door have gathered from the people; and let it be delivered into the hand of the doers of the work, ⁵ who have the oversight of the house of Jehovah, and let it be given to the doers of the work, which is in the house of Jehovah, to repair the dilapidations of the house; unto the ⁶ carpenters, and the builders, and the masons; and to buy timber and hewn stone, to repair the house.” Howbeit ⁷

there was no reckoning made with them of the money that was delivered into their hands, for they dealt faithfully.

8 And Hilkiah the priest said unto Shaphan the secretary, "I have found the book of the law in the house of Jehovah." And Hilkiah gave the book unto Shaphan, and he
9 read it. And Shaphan the secretary came to the king, and brought the king word again, and said, "Thy servants have gathered the money that was found in the house, and have delivered it into the hand of them that do the work, that
10 have the oversight of the house of Jehovah." And Shaphan the secretary shewed the king, saying, "Hilkiah the priest hath delivered unto me a book." And Shaphan read
11 it before the king. And it came to pass, when the king heard the words of the book of the law, that he rent his
12 clothes. And the king commanded Hilkiah the priest, and Ahikam the son of Shaphan, and Achbor the son of Michaiah, and Shaphan the secretary, and Asahiah a ser-
13 vant of the king's, saying, "Go, enquire of Jehovah for me, and for the people, and for all Judah, concerning the words of this book that is found: for great is the wrath of Jehovah that is kindled against us, because our fathers have not hearkened unto the words of this book, to do according to
14 all that which is written concerning us." So Hilkiah the priest, and Ahikam, and Achbor, and Shaphan, and Asahiah, went unto Huldah the prophetess, the wife of Shallum the son of Tikvah, the son of Harhas, keeper of the wardrobe, (now she dwelt in Jerusalem, in the second district); and
15 they communed with her. And she said unto them, "Thus saith Jehovah the God of Israel, 'Tell the man that sent you
16 to me, Thus saith Jehovah, Behold, I will bring evil upon this place, and upon the inhabitants thereof, even all the words of the book which the king of Judah hath read:
17 because they have forsaken me, and have burned incense unto other gods, that they might provoke me to anger with all the works of their hands; therefore my wrath shall be
18 kindled against this place, and shall not be quenched.' But as for the king of Judah who sent you to enquire of Jehovah, thus shall ye say unto him: 'Thus saith Jehovah the God of
19 Israel; as touching the words which thou hast heard, because thy heart was tender, and thou hast humbled thyself before Jehovah, when thou heardest what I have spoken concerning this place, and against the inhabitants thereof, that they should become a desolation, and a curse, and hast rent

thy clothes, and wept before me, I also have heard thee,' saith Jehovah. 'Behold, therefore, I will gather thee unto thy fathers, and thou shalt be gathered into thy grave in peace; and thine eyes shall not see all the evil which I will bring upon this place.'" And they brought the message to the king.

CHAP. XXIII.—And the king sent and they gathered 1 unto him all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem. And the 2 king went up into the house of Jehovah, and all the men of Judah, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem with him, and the priests, and the prophets, and all the people, both small and great; and he read in their hearing all the words of the book of the covenant, which was found in the house of Jehovah. And the king stood upon the pedestal, and made a 3 covenant before Jehovah, to walk after Jehovah, to keep his commandments, and his testimonies, and his statutes, with all their heart and all their soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book. And all the people stood to the covenant. And the king commanded 4 Hilkiah the high priest, and the priests of the second order, and the keepers of the door, to bring forth out of the temple of Jehovah, all the vessels that had been made for Baal, and for Ashera, and for all the host of heaven; and he burned them without Jerusalem in the fields of Kidron, and carried the ashes of them unto Bethel. And he put down the 5 idolatrous priests, whom the kings of Judah had appointed to burn incense in the high places, in the cities of Judah, and round about Jerusalem; and those that burned incense unto Baal, to the sun, and to the moon, and to the signs of the zodiac, and to all the host of heaven. And he 6 brought out the *image of* Ashera from the house of Jehovah, without Jerusalem unto the brook Kidron, and burned it at the brook Kidron, and stamped it to powder, and cast the powder thereof over the burying-place of the children of the people. And he pulled down the houses of the 7 Sodomites, that were by the house of Jehovah, *and those* wherein the women wove pavilions for Ashera. And he 8 brought all the priests out of the cities of Judah, and defiled the high places on which the priests had burned incense, from Geba to Beer-sheba; and pulled down the high places of the gates, which were at the entrance of the gate of Joshua the governor of the city, which were on a man's left

9 hand, by the gate of the city. Nevertheless the priests of the high places came not up to the altar of Jehovah in Jerusalem; but they ate the unleavened bread in the midst 10 of their brethren. And he defiled Topheth, which is in the valley of the son of Hinnom, that no man might thenceforth make his son or his daughter to pass through the fire to 11 Molech. And he took away the horses which the kings of Judah had given to the Sun, at the entrance of the house of Jehovah, by the chamber of Nathan-Melech the chamberlain, which was in the suburbs; and burned the chariots of the 12 Sun with fire. And the altars which were on the roof of the two-storied house of Ahaz, which the kings of Judah had made, and the altars which Manasseh had made in the two courts of the house of Jehovah, the king pulled down, and crushed them there; and cast the dust of them into the 13 brook Kidron. And the high places which were before Jerusalem, which were on the right hand of the Mount of Corruption, which Solomon the king of Israel had built, for Ashtoreth the abomination of the Zidonians, and for Chemosh the abomination of the Moabites, and for Milcom the abomination of the children of Ammon, the king defiled. 14 And he brake in pieces the images, and cut down the standing 15 pillars, and filled their places with the bones of men. Moreover the altar which was at Bethel, and the high place which Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who had caused Israel to sin, had made, both that altar and the high place he pulled down, and burned the high place, and stamped it to powder: and he 16 burned *the image of Ashera*. And Josiah looked, and saw the sepulchres which were there in the mount; and he sent, and took the bones out of the sepulchres, and burned them upon the altar, and polluted it, according to the word of Jehovah which the man of God proclaimed, who proclaimed 17 these things. And he said, "What is this grave-stone which I see?" And the men of the city said unto him, "It is the sepulchre of the man of God, who came from Judah, and proclaimed these things which thou hast done, against the 18 altar of Bethel." And he said, "Let him alone: let no man move his bones." So they let his bones alone, with the bones 19 of the prophet who came out of Samaria. And all the houses also of the high places that were in the cities of Samaria, which the kings of Israel had made to provoke Jehovah to anger, Josiah took away, and did unto them according to all the acts which he had done at Bethel.

And he slew upon the altars, all the priests of the high ²⁰ places that were there; and burned men's bones upon them; and returned to Jerusalem.

And the king commanded all the people saying, "Keep ²¹ the passover unto Jehovah your God, as it is written in this book of the covenant." And there was no such passover ²² holden, from the days of the judges who judged Israel, nor in all the days of the kings of Israel, nor of the kings of Judah, as in the eighteenth year of the king Josiah, *wherein* ²³ this passover was holden unto Jehovah in Jerusalem.

Moreover the necromancers, and the wizards, and the ²⁴ oracles, and the idols, and all the abominations that were seen in the land of Judah and Jerusalem, Josiah put away; that he might perform the words of the law which were written in the book which Hilkiah the priest had found in the house of Jehovah. And before him there had been no ²⁵ king like unto him, that turned to Jehovah with all his heart, and with all his soul, and with all his might, according to all the law of Moses; neither after him arose any like him.

Nevertheless Jehovah turned not from the fierceness of his ²⁶ great wrath wherewith his anger was kindled against Judah, because of all the provocations with which Manasseh had provoked him. And Jehovah said, "I will remove Judah ²⁷ also out of my sight, as I have removed Israel; and I will cast off this city Jerusalem which I have chosen, and the house of which I have said, 'My name shall be there.'"

And the rest of the acts of Josiah, and all that he did, ²⁸ are they not written in the book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah?

In his days Pharaoh-Nechoh king of Egypt went up ²⁹ against the king of Assyria, to the river Euphrates: and king Josiah went out to meet him; and he slew him at Megiddo when he had seen him. And his servants carried him ³⁰ in a chariot, dead, from Megiddo; and they brought him to Jerusalem, and buried him in his own sepulchre. And the people of the land took Jehoahaz the son of Josiah, and anointed him, and made him king in his father's stead.

Jehoahaz was twenty-three years old when he began to ³¹ reign; and he reigned three months in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Hamutal, the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah. And he did that which was evil in the sight of ³² Jehovah, according to all that his fathers had done. And ³³

Pharaoh-Nechoh imprisoned him at Riblah in the land of Hamath, that he might not be king in Jerusalem ; and imposed a tribute on the land, a hundred talents of silver, and 34 a talent of gold. And Pharaoh-Nechoh made Eliakim, the son of Josiah, king in the room of Josiah his father ; and changed his name to Jehoiakim ; and took Je霍ahaz away ; 35 and he came to Egypt, and died there. And Jehoiakim gave the silver and the gold to Pharaoh ; but he assessed the land to give the money according to the commandment of Pharaoh ; he exacted the silver and the gold from the people of the land, from every one according to his assessment, to give it unto Pharaoh-Nechoh.

36 Jehoiakim was twenty-five years old when he began to reign ; and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Zebudah, the daughter of Pedaiah of 37 Rumah. And he did that which was evil in the sight of Jehovah, according to all that his fathers had done.

1 CHAP. XXIV.—In his days Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up ; and Jehoiakim was his servant for three 2 years ; and then he turned and revolted from him. And Jehovah sent against him bands of the Chaldees, and bands of the Syrians, and bands of the Moabites, and bands of the children of Ammon ; and sent them against Judah to destroy it, according to the word of Jehovah which he spake by his 3 servants the prophets. Assuredly by the command of Je-hovah *this evil* came upon Judah, that he might remove *the nation* out of his sight, for the sins of Manasseh according 4 to all that he did ; and also for the innocent blood that he shed ; for he filled Jerusalem with innocent blood, which Jehovah would not pardon.

5 And the rest of the acts of Jehoiakim, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah ?

6 And Jehoiakim slept with his fathers, and Jehoiachin his 7 son reigned in his stead. And the king of Egypt came not any more out of his land ; for the king of Babylon had taken possession of all that had belonged to the king of Egypt, from the river of Egypt unto the river Euphrates.

8 Jehoiachin was eighteen years old when he began to reign ; and he reigned in Jerusalem three months. And his mother's name was Nehushta, the daughter of Elnathan of Jerusalem.

And he did that which was evil in the sight of Jehovah, according to all that his father had done. At that time the servants of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up against Jerusalem, and the city was besieged. And Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came against the city, and his servants besieged it. And Jehoiachin the king of Judah went out to the king of Babylon, he, and his mother, and his servants, and his captains, and his chamberlains; and the king of Babylon took him in the eighth year of his reign. And he carried out thence all the treasures of the house of Jehovah, and the treasures of the king's house; and he cut in pieces all the vessels of gold, which Solomon king of Israel had made in the temple of Jehovah, as Jehovah had said. And he carried away all Jerusalem, and all the captains, and all the mighty men of valour, even ten thousand captives; and all the craftsmen and smiths; none were left, save the poorest of the people of the land. And he carried away Jehoiachin to Babylon; and the king's mother, and the king's wives, and his chamberlains, and the mighty men of the land, he carried into captivity from Jerusalem to Babylon. And all the men of might, even seven thousand, and craftsmen and smiths a thousand, all that were strong and apt for war, even them the king of Babylon brought captive to Babylon. And the king of Babylon made Mattaniah his father's brother king in his stead; and changed his name to Zedekiah.

Zedekiah was twenty-one years old when he began to reign; and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Hamutal, the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah. And he did that which was evil in the sight of Jehovah, according to all that Jehoiakim had done. But through the anger of Jehovah against Jerusalem and Judah, even unto the casting of them away from his presence, it so came to pass. And Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon.

CHAP. XXV.—And it came to pass in the ninth year of his reign, in the tenth month, on the tenth day of the month, that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came, he and all his host, against Jerusalem, and encamped against it; and they built forts against it, round about. And the city was besieged unto the eleventh year of king Zedekiah. And on the ninth day of the fourth month, the famine prevailed

in the city, and there was no bread for the people of the land. And a breach was made in the city, and all the men of war fled by night by the way of the gate between two walls, which is by the king's garden ; (now the Chaldees were against the city round about;) and the king went by the way towards the plain. And the army of the Chaldees pursued after the king, and overtook him in the plains of Jericho : and all his army was scattered from him. So they took the king, and brought him up to the king of Babylon, to Rib-lah ; and they pronounced sentence upon him. And they slew the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes, and put out the eyes of Zedekiah, and bound him with fetters of brass, and carried him to Babylon.

8 And in the fifth month, on the seventh day of the month, which was in the nineteenth year of king Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, came Nebuzar-adan, captain of the guard, 9 a servant of the king of Babylon, unto Jerusalem ; and he burned the house of Jehovah, and the king's house, and all the houses of Jerusalem ; and the house of every great man 10 he burned with fire. And all the army of the Chaldees, which was with the captain of the guard, pulled down the 11 walls of Jerusalem round about. And the rest of the people that were left in the city, and the fugitives who had deserted to the king of Babylon, and the rest of the multitude, Nebuzar- 12 adan the captain of the guard carried away. But the captain of the guard left some of the poor of the land to be vine- 13 dressers and husbandmen. And the columns of brass which were in the house of Jehovah, and the laver-stands, and the brazen sea which was in the house of Jehovah, the Chaldees brake in pieces, and carried the brass of them to Babylon. 14 And the flesh-hooks, and the shovels, and the snuffers, and the spoons, and all the articles of brass wherewith they minis- 15 tered, they took away. And the censers, and the bowls, and such things as were of gold, and such things as were of silver, the gold and the silver the captain of the guard 16 took away. The two pillars, the one sea, and the laver- stands which Solomon had made for the house of Jehovah ; 17 the brass of all these articles was without weight. The height of the one pillar was eighteen cubits ; and the capital upon it was of brass ; and the height of the capital was three cubits ; and the net-work, and the pomegranates upon the capital round about, all were of brass. And like unto these had the second pillar, with net-work.

And the captain of the guard took Seraiah the chief priest, ¹⁸ and Zephaniah the second priest, and the three keepers of the door; and out of the city he took an officer who had ¹⁹ been set over the men of war, and five men of them that were in the king's presence, who were found in the city, and the chief secretary of the host, who enrolled the people of the land, and sixty men of the people of the land who were found in the city: and Nebusar-adan captain of the ²⁰ guard took these, and brought them to the king of Babylon to Riblah: and the king of Babylon smote them, and slew ²¹ them at Riblah, in the land of Hamath. So Judah was carried away out of their land.

And as for the people that remained in the land of Judah, ²² whom Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon had left, even over them he made Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, ruler. And when all the captains of the armies, ²³ they and their men, heard that the king of Babylon had made Gedaliah governor, there came to Gedaliah to Mizpah, even Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and Johanan the son of Careah, and Seraiah the son of Tanhumeth the Netophatite, and Jaazaniah the son of a Maachathite, they and their men. And Gedaliah sware to them and to their men; and said unto ²⁴ them, "Fear not to be the servants of the Chaldees; dwell in the land, and serve the king of Babylon, and it shall be well with you." But it came to pass in the seventh month, ²⁵ that Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, the son of Elishama, of the seed royal, came, and ten men with him, and smote Gedaliah that he died; and *he smote* the Jews and Chaldees that were with him at Mizpah. And all the people, both ²⁶ small and great, and the captains of the armies, arose, and went to Egypt: for they were afraid of the Chaldees.

And it came to pass in the thirty-seventh year of the ²⁷ captivity of Jehoiachin king of Judah, in the twelfth month, on the twenty-seventh *day* of the month, that Evil-merodach king of Babylon, in the year that he began to reign, lifted up the head of Jehoiachin the king of Judah out of prison: and ²⁸ he spake kindly to him, and set his throne above the throne of the kings that were with him in Babylon: and changed ²⁹ his prison garments: and he did eat bread continually before him, all the days of his life. And his allowance was a con- ³⁰ tinual allowance, given him by the king, a daily rate for every day, all the days of his life.

THE FIRST BOOK OF
THE CHRONICLES.

- 2 CHAP. I.—Adam, Seth, Enos; Cainan, Mahalaleel,
4 Jared; Enoch, Methuselah, Lamech; Noah, Shem, Ham,
and Japheth.
5 The sons of Japheth; Gomer, and Magog, and Madai, and
6 Javan, and Tubal, and Meshech, and Tiras. And the sons
7 of Gomer; Ashkenaz, and Riphath, and Togarmah. And
the sons of Javan; Eliahah, and Tarshish, Chittim, and
Dodanim.
8 The sons of Ham; Cush, and Mizraim, Phut, and Canaan.
9 And the sons of Cush; Seba, and Havilah, and Sabta, and
Raama, and Sabtechah. And the sons of Raamah; Sheba,
10 and Dedan. And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a
11 mighty man upon the earth. And Mizraim begat Ludim,
12 and Anamim, and Lehabim, and Naphtuhim; and Pathrusim,
and Casluhim, (from whom came Philistim,) and Caph-
13 thorim. And Canaan begat Zidon his first-born, and Heth;
14 and the Jebusite, and the Amorite, and the Girgasite; and
15 the Hivite, and the Arkite, and the Sinite; and the Arvadite,
and the Zemarite, and the Hamathite.
17 The sons of Shem; Elam, and Aashur, and Arphaxad, and
Lud, and Aram, and Uz, and Hul, and Gether, and Meshech.
19 And Arphaxad begat Salah, and Salah begat Eber. And
unto Eber were born two sons: the name of the one was Pe-
leg, [DIVISION:] because in his days the earth was divided:
20 and his brother's name was Joktan. And Joktan begat Al-
21 modad, and Sheleph, and Hazarmaveth, and Jerah; and
22 Hadoram, and Uzal, and Diklah; and Ebal, and Abimael,
23 and Sheba; and Ophir, and Havilah, and Jobab. All these
were the sons of Joktan.

Shem, Arphaxad, Salah ; Eber, Peleg, Reu ; Serug, Nahor, 26
Terah, Abram ; the same is Abraham. 27

The sons of Abraham ; Isaac, and Ishmael. These are 29
their generations :—

The first-born of Ishmael, Nebaioth ; then Kedar, and
Adebel, and Mibsam ; Mishma, and Dumah, Massa, Hadad, 30
and Tema, Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah. These are the 31
sons of Ishmael.

And the sons of Keturah, Abraham's concubine : she bare 32
Zimran, and Jokshan, and Medan, and Midian, and Ishbak,
and Shuah. And the sons of Jokshan ; Sheba, and Dedan.
And the sons of Midian ; Ephah, and Epher, and Hanoch, 33
and Abidah, and Eldaah. All these are the sons of Keturah.

And Abraham begat Isaac. The sons of Isaac ; Esau and 34
Israel.

The sons of Esau ; Eliphaz, Reuel, and Jeush, and Jaalam, 35
and Korah. The sons of Eliphaz ; Teman, and Omar, Zephi, 36
and Gatam, Kenaz, and Timna, and Amalek. The sons of 37
Reuel ; Nahath, Zerah, Shammah, and Mizzah.

And the sons of Seir ; Lotan, and Shobal, and Zibeon, and 38
Anah, and Dishon, and Ezer, and Dishan. And the sons of 39
Lotan ; Hori, and Homam : and Timna was Lotan's sister.
The sons of Shobal ; Alian, and Manahath, and Ebal, Shephi, 40
and Onam. And the sons of Zibeon ; Ajah, and Anah. The 41
sons of Anah ; Dishon. And the sons of Dishon ; Hamram,
and Eshban, and Ithran, and Cheran. The sons of Ezer, 42
Bilhan, and Zaavan, and Akan. The sons of Dishon ; Uz,
and Aran.

Now these are the kings who reigned in the land of Edom 43
before any king reigned over the children of Israel ; Bela the
son of Beor : and the name of his city was Dinhabah. And 44
Bela died, and Jobab the son of Zerah of Bozrah reigned in
his stead. And Jobab died, and Husham of the land of the 45
Temanites reigned in his stead. And Husham died, and 46
Hadad the son of Bedad, who smote Midian in the field of
Moab, reigned in his stead : and the name of his city was
Avith. And Hadad died, and Samlah of Masrekah reigned 47
in his stead. And Samlah died, and Saul of Rehoboth on 48
the river reigned in his stead. And Saul died, and Baal- 49
hanan the son of Achbor reigned in his stead. And Baal- 50
hanan died, and Hadad reigned in his stead : and the name
of his city was Pai ; and his wife's name was Mehetabel, the

daughter of Matred, the daughter of Mezahab. And Hadad died.

51 And the princes of Edom were ; prince Timnah, prince
52 Aliah, prince Jetheth; prince Abolibamah, prince Elah,
53 prince Pinon ; prince Kenaz, prince Teman, prince Mibzar ;
54 prince Magdiel, prince Iram. These were the princes of
Edom.

1 CHAP. II.—These are the sons of Israel ; Reuben,
2 Simeon, Levi, and Judah, Issachar, and Zebulun ; Dan,
Joseph, and Benjamin, Naphtali, Gad, and Asher.

3 The sons of Judah ; Er, and Onan, and Shelah : *these*
three were born unto him of the daughter of Shua the
Canaanitess. And Er, the first-born of Judah, was wicked
4 in the sight of Jehovah ; and he slew him. And Tamar
his daughter-in-law bare unto him Pharez and Zerah. All
the sons of Judah were five.

5 The sons of Pharez ; Hezron, and Hamul.

6 And the sons of Zerah ; Zimri, and Ethan, and Heman,
7 and Chalcol, and Darda : five of them in all. And the sons
of Carmi ; Achar, the troubler of Israel, who transgressed
8 in the devoted thing. And the sons of Ethan ; Azariah.

9 And the sons of Hezron, who were born unto him ;
10 Jerahmeel, and Ram, and Chelubai. And Ram begat
Amminadab ; and Amminadab begat Nahshon, prince of
11 the children of Judah ; and Nahshon begat Salma, and
12 Salma begat Boaz, and Boaz begat Obed, and Obed begat
13 Jesse, and Jesse begat his first-born Eliab, and Abinadab
14 the second, and Shimma the third, Nethaneel the fourth,
16 Raddai the fifth, Ozem the sixth, David the seventh. And
their sisters were Zeruiah, and Abigail. And the sons of
17 Zeruiah ; Abishai, and Joab, and Asahel, three. And Abigail
bare Amasa : and the father of Amasa was Jether the
Ishmaelite.

18 And Caleb the son of Hezron begat *a daughter* of Azubah
his wife, even Jerioth : and these are her sons ; Jesher, and
19 Shobab, and Ardon. And when Azubah was dead, Caleb
20 took unto him Ephrath, and she bare unto him Hur. And
Hur begat Uri, and Uri begat Bezaleel.

21 And afterward Hezron went in to the daughter of Machir
the father of Gilead, and he married her when he was three-
22 score years old ; and she bare unto him Segub. And Segub
begat Jair, who had twenty-three cities in the land of

Gilead. But the Geshurites and the Syrians took from 23 them the towns of Jair, with Kenath and the towns thereof, even threescore cities. All these had belonged to the sons of Machir the father of Gilead. And after that Hezron was 24 dead in Caleb-ephrahah, then Abiah the wife of Hezron bare unto him Ashur the father of Tekoa.

And the sons of Jerahmeel the first-born of Hezron were, 25 Ram the first-born, and Bunah, and Oren, and Ozem, and Ahijah. And Jerahmeel had another wife, whose name was 26 Atarah ; she was the mother of Onam.

And the sons of Ram the first-born of Jerahmeel were 27 Maaz, and Janin, and Eker.

And the sons of Onam were Shammai, and Jada. And 28 the sons of Shammai; Nadab, and Abishur. And the name 29 of the wife of Abishur was Abihail, and she bare unto him Ahban, and Molid. And the sons of Nadab; Seled and 30 Appaim : but Seled died without children. And the sons 31 of Appaim; Ishi. And the sons of Ishi; Sheshan. And the children of Sheshan; Ahlai. And the sons of Jada the 32 brother of Shammai; Jether, and Jonathan : and Jether died without children. And the sons of Jonathan; Peleth, 33 and Zaza. These were the sons of Jerahmeel. Now 34 Sheshan had no sons ; he had daughters only. And She- shan had a servant, an Egyptian, whose name was Jarha. And Sheshan gave his daughter to Jarha his servant to wife : 35 and she bare unto him Attai. And Attai begat Nathan, 36 and Nathan begat Zabad ; and Zabad begat Ephlal, and 37 Ephlal begat Obed ; and Obed begat Jehu, and Jehu begat 38 Azariah ; and Azariah begat Helez, and Helez begat Eleasah ; 39 and Eleasah begat Sisamai, and Sisamai begat Shallum ; 40 and Shallum begat Jekamiah, and Jekamiah begat Eli- 41 shama.

And the sons of Caleb the brother of Jerahmeel were, 42 Mesha his first-born, who was the father of Ziph, and the sons of Mareshah the father of Hebron. And the sons of 43 Hebron ; Korah, and Tappuah, and Rekem, and Shema. And Shema begat Raham, the father of Jorkoam : and 44 Rekem begat Shammai. And the son of Shammai was 45 Maon : and Maon was the father of Beth-zur. And Ephah, 46 Caleb's concubine, bare Haran, and Moza, and Gazez : and Haran begat Gazez. And the sons of Jahdai were Regem, 47 and Jotham, and Gesham, and Pelet, and Ephah, and Shaaph. And Maachah, Caleb's concubine, bare Sheber, and 48

49 Tirhanah. She bare also Shaaph the father of Madmannah, Sheva the father of Machbenah, and the father of Gibea : and the daughter of Caleb was Achsa.

50 These were the sons of Caleb the son of Hur, the first-born of Ephrathah ; Shobal the father of Kirjath-jearim, **51** Salma the father of Beth-lehem, Hareph the father of Beth-gader. And Shobal the father of Kirjath-jearim had sons ; **53** Haroeh, and half the men of Menuhoth. And the families of Kirjath-jearim ; the Ithrites, and the Puhites, and the Shumathites, and the Mishraites (of them came the Zareathites) ; and the Eshtaulites. The sons of Salma ; Beth-lehem, and the Netophathites, Ataroth, the house of Joab, and half of the Manahtites, the Zorites.

55 And the families of the scribes who dwelt at Jabez ; the Tirathites, the Shimeathites, and Suchathites. These are the Kenites that came of Hemath, the father of the house of Rechab.

1 CHAP. III.—And these were the sons of David, who were born unto him in Hebron ; the first-born, Amnon, of Ahinoam the Jezreelite ; the second, Daniel, of Abigail the Carmelitess : the third, Absalom, the son of Maachah the daughter of Talmai king of Geshur : the fourth, Adonijah **3** the son of Haggith : the fifth, Shephatiah of Abital : the **4** sixth, Ithream by Eglah his wife. *These six were born unto him in Hebron ; and there he reigned seven years and six months : and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty-three years.*

5 And these were born unto him in Jerusalem ; Shimea, and Shobab, and Nathan, and Solomon, four, of Bathshua the daughter of Ammiel : Ibhar also, and Elishama, and Eli-sphelet ; and Nogah, and Nepheg, and Japhia ; and Elishama, **9** and Eliada, and Eliphelet, nine. These were all the sons of David, beside the sons of the concubines ; and Tamar was their sister.

10 And Solomon's son was Rehoboam, Abia his son, Asa his **11** son, Jehoshaphat his son, Joram his son, Ahaziah his son, **12** Joash his son, Amaziah his son, Azariah his son, Jotham his **13** son, Ahaz his son, Hezekiah his son, Manasseh his son, **15** Amon his son, Josiah his son. And the sons of Josiah were, the first-born Johanan, the second Jehoiakim, the third **16** Zedekiah, the fourth Shallum. And the sons of Jehoiakim ; **17** Jeconiah his son, Zedekiah his son. And the sons of **18** Jeconiah the captive ; Salathiel his son, and Malchiram, and

Pedaiah, and Shenazar, Jecamiah, Hoshama, and Nedabiah. And the sons of Pedaiah were Zerubbabel, and Shimei : and 19 the sons of Zerubbabel ; Meshullam, and Hananiah ; and Shelomith was their sister : also Hashubah, and Ohel, and 20 Berechiah, and Hasadiah, Jushabhesed, five. And the sons 21 of Hananiah ; Pelatiah, and Isaiah : the sons of Rephaiah, the sons of Arnan, the sons of Obadiah, the sons of Shechaniah. And the sons of Shechaniah ; Shemaiah : and 22 the sons of Shemaiah ; Hattush, and Igeal, and Bariah, and Neariah, and Shaphat, six. And the sons of Neariah ; Eli- 23 oenai, and Hezekiah, and Azrikam, three. And the sons of 24 Elionai were, Hodaiah, and Eliashib, and Pelaiah, and Akkub, and Johanan, and Dalaiah, and Ananai, seven.

CHAP. IV.—The sons of Judah ; Pharez, Hezron, and 1 Carmi, and Hur, and Shobal. And Reaiah the son of 2 Shobal begat Jahath ; and Jahath begat Ahumai, and Lahad. These are the families of the Zorathites. And these were of 3 the father of Etam ; Jezreel, and Ishma, and Idbash and the name of their sister was Hazelelponi : and Penue, 4 the father of Gedor, and Ezer the father of Hushah. These are the sons of Hur, the first-born of Ephrathah, the father of Beth-lehem.

And Ashur the father of Tekoa had two wives, Helah 5 and Naarah. And Naarah bare him Ahuzam, and Hepher, 6 and Temeni, and Haahashtari. These were the sons of Naarah. And the sons of Helah were, Zereth, and Jezoar, 7 and Ethnan. And Coz begat Anub, and Zobebah, and the 8 families of Aharhel the son of Harum.

And Jabez was more honourable than his brethren : though 9 his mother had called his name Jabez, [SORROWING] ; saying, “Because I bare him with sorrow.” And Jabez called on 10 the God of Israel, saying,

“ Oh that thou wouldest bless me indeed, and enlarge my coast,

And that thy hand might be with me,

And that thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me ! ”

And God granted him that which he asked.

And Chelub the brother of Shuah begat Mehir ; he was 11 the father of Eshton. And Eshton begat Bethrapha, and 12 Paseah, and Tehinnah the father of Ir-nahash. These are the men of Rechah.

- 13 And the sons of Kenaz ; Othniel, and Seraiah : and the sons of Othniel ; Hathath.
- 14 And Meonothai begat Ophrah : and Seraiah begat Joab, the father of the men of the Craftsmen's Valley : for they were craftsmen.
- 15 And the sons of Caleb the son of Jephunneh ; Iru, Elah, and Naam : and the sons of Elah, Kenaz.
- 16 And the sons of Jehaleel ; Ziph, and Ziphah, Tiria, and Asareel.
- 17 And the sons of Ezra were Jether, and Mered, and Epher, and Jalon : . . . and she bare Miriam, and Shammai, and
- 18 Ishbah the father of Eshtemoa. And his wife the Jewess bare Jered the father of Gedor, and Heber the father of Socho, and Jekuthiel the father of Zanoah. And these are the sons of Bithiah the daughter of Pharaoh, whom Mered
- 19 took to wife, . . . and the sons of the wife of Hodiah the sister of Naham, the father of Keilah the Garmite,
- 20 and Eshtemoa the Maachathite, And the sons of Shimon were Amnon, and Rinnah, Ben-hanan, and Tilon. And the sons of Ishi were Zoheth, and Ben-zozeth.
- 21 The sons of Shelah the son of Judah were, Er the father of Lecah, and Laadah the father of Mareshah, and the families of the house of them that wrought fine linen, of the house of
- 22 Ashbea, and Jokim, and the men of Chozeba, and Joash, and Saraph, who had the dominion in Moab, and Jashub-
- 23 lehem. And *these* are ancient things. These were the potters, and *men* that dwelt in Netaim and Gederah : there they dwelt near the king for his work.
- 24 The sons of Simeon were, Nemuel, and Jamin, Jarib,
- 25 Zerah, and Shaul : Shallum his son, Mibsam his son, Mish-
- 26 ma his son. And the sons of Mishma ; Hamuel his son,
- 27 Zaccur his son, Shimei his son. And Shimei had sixteen
- sons and six daughters ; but his brethren had not many
- children, neither did all their family multiply, like to the
- 28 children of Judah. And they dwelt at Beer-sheba, and Mola-
- 29 dah, and Hazar-shual, and at Bilhah, and at Ezem, and at
- 30 Tolad, and at Bethuel, and at Hormah, and at Ziklag, and
- at Beth-marcaboth, and Hazar-susim, and at Beth-birei,
- and at Shaaraim. These were their cities unto the reign of
- 32 David. And their villages were, Etam, and Ain, Rimmon,
- 33 and Tochen, and Ashan ; five cities, and all their villages

that were round about those cities, unto Baal. These were their habitations, and *this* their genealogy.

And Meshobab, and Jamlech, and Josah the son of Amaziah, and Joel, and Jehu the son of Josibiah, the son of Seerah, the son of Asiel, and Elioenai, and Jaakobah, and Jeshohaiah, and Asaiah, and Adiel, and Jesimiel, and Benaiah, and Ziza the son of Shiphrah, the son of Allon, the son of Jedaiah, the son of Shimri, the son of Shemaiah ; these men mentioned by name were princes in their families : and the house of their fathers increased greatly. And they went to the entrance of Gedor, *even* unto the east side of the valley, to seek pasture for their flocks. And they found rich pasture and good, and a land wide, and quiet, and secure ; for *certain* of the race of Ham had dwelt there of old. And these written above by name came in the days of Hezekiah king of Judah, and smote their tents, and the habitations that were found there, and destroyed them utterly unto this day, and dwelt in their stead : because there was pasture there for their flocks. And some of them, *even* of the sons of Simeon, five hundred men, went to mount Seir ; having for their captains Pelatiah, and Neariah, and Rephaiah, and Uzziel, the sons of Ishi. And they smote the remnant of the Amalekites that were escaped ; and have dwelt there unto this day.

CHAP. V.—Now the sons of Reuben the first-born of Israel, (for he was the first-born ; but, forasmuch as he defiled his father's bed, his birth-right was given unto the sons of Joseph the son of Israel : yet they are not to be registered according to the birth-right : for Judah prevailed above his brethren, and of him came the chief ruler ; but the birth-right was Joseph's :) the sons, *I say*, of Reuben the first-born of Israel were, Hanoch, and Pallu, Hezron, and Carmi. The sons of Joel ; Shemaiah his son, Gog his son, Shimei his son, Micah his son, Reaiah his son, Baal his son, Beerah his son, whom Tilgath-pilneser king of Assyria carried away captive : he was prince of the Reubenites. And his brethren by their families, when the genealogy of their generations was reckoned, were Jeiel, the chief, and Zechariah, and Bela the son of Azaz, the son of Shéma, the son of Joel, who dwelt in Aroer, even unto Nebo and Baal-meon : and eastward he inhabited unto the beginning of the wilderness which extends from the river Euphrates : because their cattle were multiplied in the land of Gilead. And in the days of Saul

they made war with the Hagarites, who fell by their hand ; and they dwelt in their tents, throughout all the *land* eastward of Gilead.

11 And the children of Gad dwelt over against them, in the
12 land of Bashan unto Salcah : Joel the chief, and Shapham
13 the next, and Jaanai, and Shaphat in Bashan. And their
brethren of the house of their fathers were, Michael, and
Meshullām, and Sheba, and Jorai, and Jachan, and Zia, and
14 Heber, seven. These are the children of Abihail the son
of Huri, the son of Jaroah, the son of Gilead, the son of
Michael, the son of Jeshishai, the son of Jahdo, the son of
15 Buz ; Ahi the son of Abdiel, the son of Guní, was the chief
16 of the house of their fathers. And they dwelt in Gilead,
in Bashan, and in its towns, and in all the pasture-lands of
17 Sharon, upon their borders. All these were enrolled in the
registers in the days of Jotham king of Judah, and in the
days of Jeroboam king of Israel.

18 The sons of Reuben, and the Gadites, and the half of the
tribe of Manasseh, valiant men, men able to bear buckler
and sword, and to shoot with bow, and trained to war, were
forty-four thousand seven hundred and sixty, that went out
19 to war. And they made war with the Hagarites, with
20 Jetur, and Naphish, and Nodab. And they were helped
against them, and the Hagarites were delivered into their
hand, and all that were with them : for they cried to God in
the battle, and he was intreated of them, because they put
21 their trust in him. And they took away their cattle ; of
their camels fifty thousand, and of sheep two hundred and
fifty thousand, and of asses two thousand, and of men a
22 hundred thousand. For there fell down many slain, because
the war was of God. And they dwelt in their stead until
the captivity.

23 And the children of the half of the tribe of Manasseh
dwelt in the land : they increased from Bashan unto Baal-
24 hermon and Senir, and unto mount Hermon. And these
were the heads of the house of their fathers, even Epher,
and Ishi, and Eliel, and Azriel, and Jeremiah, and Hodaviah,
and Jahdiel, mighty men of valour, famous men, heads
25 of the house of their fathers. And they transgressed against
the God of their fathers, and went a whoring after the gods
of the people of the land, whom God destroyed before them

And the God of Israel stirred up the spirit of Pul king of ²⁶ Assyria, and the spirit of Tilgath-pilneser king of Assyria, and he carried them away, even the Reubenites, and the Gadites, and the half of the tribe of Manasseh, and brought them unto Halah, and Habor, and Hara, and to the river Gozan, unto this day.

CHAP. VI.—The sons of Levi; Gershon, Kohath, and ¹ Merari. And the sons of Kohath; Amram, Izhar, and He-² bron, and Uzziel. And the children of Amram; Aaron, and ³ Moses, and Miriam. The sons also of Aaron; Nadab, and Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar. Eleazar begat Phinehas; Phi-⁴ nehas' begat Abishua; and Abishua begat Bukki, and Bukki ⁵ begat Uzzi; and Uzzi begat Zerahiah, and Zerahiah begat ⁶ Meraioth; Meraioth begat Amariah, and Amariah begat ⁸ Ahitub; and Ahitub begat Zadok, and Zadok begat Ahimaaz; ⁹ and Ahimaaz begat Azariah, and Azariah begat Johanan; and ¹⁰ Johanan begat Azariah; (he it is who executed the priest's office in the temple which Solomon built in Jerusalem:) and ¹¹ Azariah begat Amariah, and Amariah begat Ahitub; and ¹² Ahitub begat Zadok, and Zadok begat Shallum; and Shallum ¹³ begat Hilkiah, and Hilkiah begat Azariah; and Azariah begat ¹⁴ Seraiah, and Seraiah begat Jehozadak; and Jehozadak went ¹⁵ into captivity, when Jehovah carried away Judah and Jersalem into captivity, by the hand of Nebuchadnezzar.

The sons of Levi; Gershom, Kohath, and Merari. And ¹⁷ these are the names of the sons of Gershom; Libni and Shimei. And the sons of Kohath were, Amram, and Izhar, and Hebron, ¹⁸ and Uzziel. The sons of Merari; Mahli, and Mushi. ¹⁹

And these are the families of the Levites according to their fathers. Of Gershom; Libni his son, Jahath his son, Zim-²⁰ mah his son, Joah his son, Iddo his son, Zerah his son, Jeaterai ²¹ his son. The sons of Kohath; Amminadab his son, Korah ²² his son, Assir his son, Elkanah his son, and Ebiasaph his son, ²³ and Assir his son, Tahath his son, Uriel his son, Uzziah his ²⁴ son, and Shaul his son. And the sons of Elkanah; Amasai, ²⁵ and Ahimoth. *As for Elkanah;* the sons of Elkanah; Zophai ²⁶ his son, and Nahath his son, Eliab his son, Jeroham his son, ²⁷ Elkanah his son, *Samuel his son.* And the sons of Samuel; ²⁸ *Joel* the first-born, and the second, *Abijah.*

The sons of Merari; Mahli, Libni his son, Shimei his son, ²⁹ Uzza his son, Shimea his son, Haggiah his son, Asaiah his son. ³⁰

And these are they whom David set over the service of song

32 in the house of Jehovah, after that the ark had rest. And they ministered before the dwelling place of the tabernacle of the congregation with singing, until Solomon had built the house of Jehovah in Jerusalem : and they waited on their office according to their order.

33 And these are they that waited, with their children. Of the sons of the Kohathites : Heman the *chief* singer, the son of Joel, the son of Samuel ; the son of Elkanah, the son of Jeroham, the son of Eliel, the son of Toah ; the son of Zuph, the son of Elkanah, the son of Mahath, the son of Amasai ; 36 the son of Elkanah, the son of Joel, the son of Azariah, the son of Zephaniah ; the son of Tahath, the son of Assir, the son of Ebiasaph, the son of Korah ; the son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, the son of Israel.

39 And his brother Asaph, who stood on his right hand, even 40 Asaph the son of Berachiah, the son of Shimea ; the son of Michael, the son of Baaseiah, the son of Malchiah, the son of Ethni, the son of Zerah, the son of Adaiah ; the son of Ethan, the son of Zimmah, the son of Shimei ; the son of Jahath, the son of Gershom, the son of Levi.

44 And their brethren the sons of Merari stood on the left hand : Ethan the son of Kishi, the son of Abdi, the son of Malluch ; the son of Hashabiah, the son of Amaziah, the son of Hilkiah ; the son of Amzi, the son of Bani, the son of Shamer ; 47 the son of Mahli, the son of Mushi, the son of Merari, the son of Levi.

48 Their brethren also the Levites were appointed unto all manner of service of the tabernacle of the house of God. 49 But Aaron and his sons offered upon the altar of burnt-offering, and upon the altar of incense ; *and were appointed* for all the work of the most holy place, and to make atonement for Israel, according to all that Moses the servant of God had commanded.

50 And these are the sons of Aaron ; Eleazar his son, Phineas his son, Abishua his son ; Bukki his son, Uzzi his son, 52 Zerahiah his son ; Meraioth his son, Amariah his son, Ahitub his son ; Zadok his son, Ahimaaz his son.

54 And these are their dwelling places throughout their strongholds in their coasts, of the sons of Aaron, of the families of the Kohathites : for the *first* lot fell to them. And they gave unto them Hebron in the land of Judah, and the pasture-lands thereof around it. But the field of the city, and the villages thereof, they gave to Caleb the son of Jephunneh. And to

the sons of Aaron they gave the cities of refuge, Hebron, and Libnah with its pasture-lands, and Jattir, and Ehtemeoah with its pasture-lands ; and Hilen with its pasture-lands, 58 Debir with its pasture-lands; and Ashan with its pasture-lands, 59 Beth-sheunesh with its pasture-lands. And out of the tribe of 60 Benjamin, Geba with its pasture-lands, and Alemeth with its pasture-lands, and Anathoth with its pasture-lands. All their cities were thirteen cities, among their families. And 61 unto the rest of the children of Kohath, out of the families of the tribe of Ephraim, and out of the tribe of Dan, and out of the half tribe of Manasseh, ten cities were given by lot.

And the children of Gershom throughout their families 62 had, out of the tribe of Issachar, and out of the tribe of Asher, and out of the tribe of Naphtali, and out of the tribe of Manasseh in Bashan, thirteen cities.

Unto the children of Merari were given by lot, throughout 63 their families, out of the tribe of Reuben, and out of the tribe of Gad, and out of the tribe of Zebulun, twelve cities.

And the children of Israel gave to the Levites these cities 64 with their pasture-lands. And they gave by lot out of the tribe of the children of Judah, and out of the tribe of the children of Simeon, and out of the tribe of the children of Benjamin, these cities, which are mentioned by name. And 66 some of the families of the children of Kohath had cities of their coasts out of the tribe of Ephraim. And they gave 67 unto them the cities of refuge, Shechem in mount Ephraim with its pasture-lands, and Gezer with its pasture-lands; and Jokmeam with its pasture-lands, and Beth-horon with 68 its pasture-lands; and Aijalon with its pasture-lands, and 69 Gath-rimmon with its pasture-lands: and out of the half 70 tribe of Manasseh, Aner with its pasture-lands, and Bileam with its pasture-lands, for the families of the remnant of the children of Kohath. Unto the children of Gershom were 71 given out of the families of the half tribe of Manasseh, Golan in Bashan with its pasture-lands, and Ashtaroth with its pasture-lands: and out of the tribe of Issachar, Kedesh 72 with its pasture-lands, Daberath with its pasture-lands; and 73 Ramoth with its pasture-lands, and Anem with its pasture-lands: and out of the tribe of Asher, Mashal with its pasture- 74 lands, and Abdon with its pasture-lands; and Hukok with its 75 pasture-lands, and Rehob with its pasture-lands: and out of 76 the tribe of Naphtali, Kedesh in Galilee with its pasture-lands, and Hammon with its pasture-lands, and Kirjathaim with its

77 pasture-lands. Unto the rest of the children of Merari were given out of the tribe of Zebulun, Rimmon with its pasture-
78 lands, Tabor with its pasture-lands: and on the other side Jordan by Jericho, on the east side of Jordan, were given them out of the tribe of Reuben, Bezer in the wilderness with its
79 pasture-lands, and Jahzah with its pasture-lands; Kedemoth also with its pasture-lands, and Mephaath with its pasture-
80 lands: and out of the tribe of Gad, Ramoth in Gilead with its pasture-lands, and Mahanaim with its pasture-lands; and Heshbon with its pasture-lands, and Jazer with its pasture-
81 lands.

1 CHAP. VII.—Now the sons of Issachar were Tola, and
2 Puah, Jashub, and Shimrom, four. And the sons of Tola; Uzzi, and Rephaiah, and Jeriel, and Jahmai, and Jibsam, and Shemuel were heads of the house of their fathers, *the sons* of Tola, valiant men of might in their generations; whose number was in the days of David twenty-two thousand and
3 six hundred. And the sons of Uzzi; Izrahiah, (and the sons of Izrahiah,) Michael, and Obadiab, and Joel, and Ishiah, five:
4 all of them chief men. And with them throughout their generations, after the house of their fathers, were bands of soldiers for war, thirty-six thousand men: for they had many
5 wives and sons. And their brethren among all the families of Issachar were valiant men of might, fourscore and seven thousand, in all, recorded in the registers.

6 The sons of Benjamin; Bela, and Becher, and Jediael,
7 three. And the sons of Bela; Ezbou, and Uzzi, and Uzziel, and Jerimoth, and Iri, five; heads of the house of *their* fathers, mighty men of valour; and there were recorded of them in the registers twenty-two thousand and thirty-four. And the sons of Becher: Zemira, and Joash, and Eliezer, and Elioenai, and Omri, and Jerimoth, and Abiah, and Anathoth, and Alameth. All these are the sons
9 of Becher. And the number of them, after their registers, by their generations, heads of the house of their fathers, mighty men of valour, was twenty thousand and two hundred.
10 And the sons of Jediael; Bilhan: and the sons of Bilhan; Jeush, and Benjamin, and Ehud, and Chenaanah,
11 and Zethan, and Tharshish, and Ahishahar, all these. And the children of Jediael, by the heads of their fathers, mighty men of valour, were seventeen thousand and two hundred,

fit to go out with the host for war. Shuppim also, and 12 Huppim, the children of Ir; and Hushim, the children of Aher.

The sons of Naphtali; Jahziel, and Guni, and Jezer, and 13 Shallum, the sons of Bilhah.

The sons of Manasseh; Asriel, whom *his wife* bare: (but 14 his Syrian concubine bare Machir the father of Gilead: and 15 Machir took to wife the sister of Huppim and Shuppim, whose name was Maachah;) and the name of *his wife's* second son was Zelophehad; and Zelophehad had daughters *only*. And Maachah the wife of Machir bare a son, and she called 16 his name Peresh; and the name of his brother was Sheresh; and his sons were Ulam and Rakem. And the sons of 17 Ulam; Bedan. These were the sons of Gilead, the son of Machir, the son of Manasseh. And his sister Hammoleketh 18 bare Ishod, and Abiezer, and Mahalah. And the sons of 19 Shemidah were, Ahian, and Shechem, and Likhi, and Aniam.

And the sons of Ephraim; Shuthelah, and Bered his son, 20 and Tahath his son, and Eladah his son, and Tahath his son, and Zabad his son, and Shuthelah his son, and Ezer, and 21 Elead, whom the men of Gath who were born in that land slew, because they came down to take away their cattle. 22 And Ephraim their father mourned many days, and his brethren came to comfort him. And he went in to his wife, 23 and she conceived, and bare a son, and he called his name Be-riah, [IN EVIL], because it went evil with his house. (And his 24 daughter was Sherah, who built the lower and the upper Beth-horon, and Uzzen-sherah.) And Rephah was his son, and 25 Resheph; and Telah was his son, and Tahan his son; Laadan 26 his son, Ammihud his son, Elishama his son; Non his son, 27 Joshua his son. And their possessions and habitations were, 28 Beth-el and the towns thereof, and eastward Naaran, and westward Gezer, with the towns thereof; Shechem also and the towns thereof, unto Gaza and the towns thereof: and 29 by the borders of the children of Manasseh, Beth-shean and its towns, Taanach and its towns, Megiddo and its towns, Dor and its towns. In these dwelt the children of Joseph the son of Israel.

The sons of Asher; Imnah, and Isuah, and Ishuai, and 30

31 **Beriah** : and **Serah** was their sister. And the sons of **Beriah** ;
 32 **Heber**, and **Malchiel**, who is the father of **Birzavith**. And
 Heber begat **Japhlet**, and **Shomer**, and **Hotham**, and **Shua**
 33 their sister. And the sons of **Japhlet**; **Pasach**, and **Bim-
 hal**, and **Ashvath**. These are the children of **Japhlet**.
 34 And the sons of **Shomer**; **Ahi**, and **Rohgah**, **Jehubbah**, and
 35 **Aram**. And the sons of his brother **Helem**; **Zophah**, and
 36 **Imna**, and **Shelesh**, and **Amal**. The sons of **Zophah**; **Suah**,
 37 and **Harnepher**, and **Shual**, and **Beri**, and **Imrah**; **Bezer**, and
Hod, and **Shamma**, and **Shilshah**, and **Ithran**, and **Beera**.
 38 And the sons of **Jether**; **Jephunneh**, and **Pispah**, and **Ara**.
 40 And the sons of **Ulla**; **Arah**, and **Haniel**, and **Rezia**. All
 these were the children of **Asher**, heads of their father's
 house, choice and mighty men of valour, chiefs among the
 princes. And their number, enrolled in the register of them
 that were fit to serve in the host for war, was twenty-six thou-
 sand men.

1 **CHAP. VIII.**—Now **Benjamin** begat **Bela** his first-born,
 2 **Ashbel** the second, and **Aharah** the third, **Nohah** the fourth,
 3 and **Rapha** the fifth. And the sons of **Bela** were, **Addar**,
 4 and **Gera**, and **Abihud**. And **Abishua**, and **Naaman**, and
 6 **Ahoah**; and **Gera**, and **Shephuphan**, and **Huram**; and these
 are the sons of **Ehud**: these are the heads of the fathers of the
 inhabitants of **Geba**; but they were removed to **Manahath**:
 7 even **Naaman**, and **Ahoah**, and **Gera**, he removed them, and
 8 begat **Uzza**, and **Ahiahud**. And afterwards he begat *children*
 in the country of **Moab**, after he had sent them away, of
 9 **Hushim** and **Baara** his wives. And he begat of **Hodesh** his
 10 wife, **Jobab**, and **Zibia**, and **Mesha**, and **Malcham**; and **Jeuz**,
 and **Shachia**, and **Mirma**. These were his sons, heads of the
 11 fathers. And of **Hushim** he begat **Abitub**, and **Elpaal**.

12 The sons of **Elpaal**; **Eber**, and **Misham**, and **Shamed**,
 13 (who built **Ono**, and **Lod**, with the towns thereof:) **Beriah**
 also, and **Shema**, who were heads of the fathers of the
 inhabitants of **Aijalon**, who drove away the inhabitants of
 15 **Gath**. And **Ahio**, **Shashak**, and **Jeremoth**; and **Zebadiah**,
 16 and **Arad**, and **Ader**; and **Michael**, and **Ispah**, and **Joha**, the
 17 sons of **Beriah**; and **Zebadiah**, and **Meshullam**, and **Hezeki**,
 18 and **Heber**; and **Ishmerai**, and **Jeziyah**, and **Jobab**, were the
 20 sons of **Elpaal**; and **Jakim**, and **Zichri**, and **Zabdi**; and
 21 **Elienai**, and **Zilthai**, and **Eliel**; and **Adaiah**, and **Beraiah**,
 22 and **Shimrath**, the sons of **Shimei**; and **Ishpan**, and **Heber**,
 24 and **Eliel**; and **Abdon**, and **Zichri**, and **Hanan**; and **Hanna-**

niah, and Elam, and Antothijah ; and Iphedeiah, and Penuel, ²⁵
the sons of Shashak ; and Shamsherai, and Sheharish, and ²⁶
Athaliah ; and Jaresiah, and Elijah, and Zichri, the sons of ²⁷
Jeroham. These were heads of the fathers, by their gene- ²⁸
rations, chief men. These dwelt in Jerusalem.

And at Gibeon dwelt the father of Gibeon ; and his wife's ²⁹
name was Maachah : and his first-born son Abdon, and Zur, ³⁰
and Kish, and Baal, and Nadab ; and Gedor, and Ahio, and ³¹
Zacher. And Mikloth begat Shimeah. And these also ³²
dwelt with their brethren, over against their brethren in
Jerusalem.

And Ner begat Kish, and Kish begat Saul, and Saul be- ³³
gan Jonathan, and Malchi-shua, and Abinadab, and Esh-
baal. And the son of Jonathan was Merib-baal ; and Merib- ³⁴
baal begat Micah. And the sons of Micah were Pithon, and ³⁵
Melech, and Tarea, and Ahaz. And Ahaz begat Jehoadah ; ³⁶
and Jehoadah begat Alemeth, and Azmaveth, and Zimri ;
and Zimri begat Moza. And Moza begat Binea ; Rapha was ³⁷
his son, Eleasar his son, Azel his son. And Azel had six ³⁸
sons, whose names are these, Azrikam, Bocheru, and Ish-
mael, and Sheariah, and Obadiah, and Hanan. All these
were the sons of Azel. And the sons of Eshek his brother ³⁹
were, Ulam his first-born, Jehush the second, and Elipelet
the third. And the sons of Ulam were exceeding skilful in ⁴⁰
shooting with the bow ; and they had many sons and sons'
sons, a hundred and fifty. All these are of the children
of Benjamin.

CHAP. IX.—So all Israel were enrolled in registers ; ¹
and, behold, they were written in the Book of the Kings of
Israel ; and *the men of Judah* were carried away to Babylon
for their transgression.

Now the first Israelites that dwelt in their possessions in ²
their cities were the priests, the Levites, and the servants of
the sanctuary.

And in Jerusalem dwelt *men* of the children of Judah, ³
and of the children of Benjamin, and of the children of
Ephraim, and Manasseh ; Uthai the son of Ammihud, the ⁴
son of Omri, the son of Imri, the son of Bani, of the chil-
dren of Pharez the son of Judah. And of the Shilonites ; ⁵
Asaiah the first-born, and his sons. And of the children of ⁶
Zerah, Jeuel ; and their brethren, six hundred and ninety.
And of the children of Benjamin ; Sallu the son of Meshul- ⁷
lam, the son of Hodaviah, the son of Hasenuah ; and Ibneiah a

the son of Jeroham, and Elah the son of Uzzi, the son of Michri, and Meshullam the son of Shephathiah, the son of ⁹ Reuel, the son of Ibniyah ; and their brethren, according to their generations, nine hundred and fifty-six. All these men were chief among the fathers in the house of their fathers.

¹⁰ And of the priests ; Jedaiah, and Jehoiarib, and Jachin ; ¹¹ and Azariah the son of Hilkiah, the son of Meshullam, the son of Zadok, the son of Meremoth, the son of Ahitub, the ¹² ruler of the house of God ; and Adaiah the son of Jeroham, the son of Pashur, the son of Malchijah, and Maasai the son of Adiel, the son of Jahzerah, the son of Meshullam, the ¹³ son of Meshillemith, the son of Immer ; and their brethren, heads of the house of their fathers, a thousand and seven hundred and sixty ; very able men for the work of the service of the house of God.

¹⁴ And of the Levites ; Shemaiah the son of Hasshub, the son of Azrikam, the son of Hashabiah, of the children of ¹⁵ Merari ; and Bakbakkar, Heresh, and Galal, and Mattaniah ¹⁶ the son of Micah, the son of Zichri, the son of Asaph ; and Obadiah the son of Shemaiah, the son of Galal, the son of Jeduthun, and Berechiah the son of Asa, the son of Elkanah, ¹⁷ who dwelt in the villages of the Netophathites. And the porters were Shallum, and Akkub, and Talmon, and Ahiman, ¹⁸ and their brethren ; Shallum was the chief : and hitherto these the porters in the companies of the children of Levi ¹⁹ waited in the king's gate, eastward. And Shallum the son of Kore, the son of Ebiasaph, the son of Korah, and his brethren, of the house of his father, the Korahites, were over the work of the service, keepers of the gates of the tabernacle ; and their fathers, in the camp of Jehovah, had been ²⁰ keepers of the portal. And Phinehas the son of Eleazar was the ruler over them in time past ; Jehovah was with him. ²¹ Zechariah the son of Meshelemiah was porter of the door of ²² the tabernacle of the congregation. All those who were chosen to be porters in the gates were two hundred and twelve. These, whom David and Samuel the seer ordained in their charge were enrolled in the registers, according to their ²³ villages. So they and their children had the oversight of the gates of the house of Jehovah, namely, the house of the ²⁴ tabernacle, by wards. In four quarters were the porters, ²⁵ toward the east, the west, the north, and the south. And their brethren, who were in their villages, were to come after ²⁶ seven days, from time to time, with them. For these Levites,

the four chief porters, were in charge, and they were over the chambers and treasures of the house of God. And they ²⁷ lodged round about the house of God, because the custody was upon them, and the opening of it every morning ²⁸ pertained to them. And *certain* of them had the charge of the ministering vessels, that by tale they should bring them in and by tale should bring them out. Some of them also ²⁹ were appointed to oversee the vessels, and all the instruments of the sanctuary, and the fine flour, and the wine, and the oil, and the frankincense, and the spices. And *some* of the sons ³⁰ of the priests made the ointment of the spices. And Matti- ³¹ thiah, *one* of the Levites, who was the first-born of Shallum the Korahite, had the charge over the things that were made in the pans. And *other* of their brethren, of the sons ³² of the Kohathites, were over the shew-bread, to prepare it every sabbath. And these singers, the chief of the fathers of ³³ the Levites, *remained* in the chambers free: for they were employed in that work day and night. These chief fathers ³⁴ of the Levites were chief throughout their generations; these dwelt at Jerusalem.

And in Gibeon dwelt the father of Gibeon, Jehiel, whose ³⁵ wife's name was Maachah: and his first-born son was Ab- ³⁶ don, then Zur, and Kish, and Baal, and Ner, and Nadab; and Gedor, and Ahio, and Zechariah, and Mikloth. And Mikloth ³⁸ begat Shimeam. And they also dwelt with their brethren at Jerusalem, over against their brethren. And Ner begat Kish; ³⁹ and Kish begat Saul; and Saul begat Jonathan, and Malchi-shua, and Abinadab, and Esh-baal. And the son of Jona- ⁴⁰ than was Merib-baal; and Merib-baal begat Micah. And ⁴¹ the sons of Micah were Pithon, and Melech, and Tahrea, and Ahaz. And Ahaz begat Jarah; and Jarah begat Ale- ⁴² meth, and Azmaveth, and Zimri; and Zimri begat Moza; and ⁴³ Moza begat Binea; and Rephaiah his son, Eleasah his son, Azel his son. And Azel had six sons, whose names are these, ⁴⁴ Azrikam, Bocheru, and Ishmael, and Sheariah, and Obadiah, and Hanan: these were the sons of Azel.

CHAP. X.—Now the Philistines made war against Israel; ¹ and the men of Israel fled from before the Philistines, and fell slain in Mount Gilboa. And the Philistines followed ² hard after Saul, and after his sons; and the Philistines slew Jonathan, and Abinadab, and Malchi-shua, the sons of Saul. And the battle went sore against Saul, and the archers hit ³

4 him, and he was wounded of the slingers. Then said Saul to his armour-bearer, "Draw thy sword, and thrust me through therewith; lest these uncircumcised come and abuse me." But his armour-bearer would not; for he was sore afraid. So Saul took his sword, and fell upon it. And when his armour-bearer saw that Saul was dead, he fell likewise on the sword, and died. So Saul died and his three sons, and all his house died together. And when all the men of Israel who were in the valley saw that *the host* had fled, and that Saul and his sons were dead, then they forsook their cities, and fled: and the Philistines came and dwelt in them.

8 And it came to pass on the morrow, when the Philistines came to strip the slain, that they found Saul and his sons fallen in mount Gilboa. And they stripped him, and they took his head, and his armour, and sent into the land of the Philistines round about, to carry the tidings unto 10 their idols, and to the people. And they put his armour in the temples of their gods, and fastened his head in the temple 11 of Dagon. And all Jabesh-gilead heard all that the Philistines had done to Saul; and they arose, all the valiant men, and took away the body of Saul, and the bodies of his sons, and brought them to Jabesh, and buried their bones under the terebinth tree in Jabesh, and fasted seven days.

13 So Saul died for his transgression which he committed against Jehovah, *even* against the word of Jehovah, which he kept not; and also for seeking to enquire of a necromancer. 14 And he enquired not of Jehovah; therefore he slew him, and turned the kingdom unto David the son of Jesse.

1 CHAP. XI.—Then all Israel gathered themselves together to David unto Hebron, saying, "Behold, we are thy bone and thy flesh. And moreover in time past, even when Saul was king, it was thou who didst lead out and bring in Israel; and Jehovah thy God said unto thee, 'Thou shalt feed my people Israel, and thou shalt be ruler over my people Israel.'" Therefore came all the elders of Israel to the king to Hebron; and David made a covenant with them in Hebron before Jehovah; and they anointed David king over Israel, according to the word of Jehovah by Samuel. 4 And David and all Israel went to Jerusalem, which is Jebus; and the Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land, were there. 5 And the inhabitants of Jebus said to David, "Thou shalt not come hither." Nevertheless David took the strong-hold

of Zion, which is the city of David. And David said, "Whoever smiteth the Jebusites first shall be chief and captain." So Joab the son of Zeruiah went first up, and was chief. And David dwelt in the strong-hold; therefore they called it the city of David. And he built the city round about, even from the embankment round about: and Joab rebuilt the rest of the city. So David grew greater and greater: for Jehovah of hosts was with him.

These also are the chief of the mighty men whom David had, who adhered closely to him in his kingdom, *and joined* with all Israel, to make him king, according to the word of Jehovah concerning Israel. And this is the catalogue of the mighty men whom David had; Jashobeam, the son of Hachmoni, the chief of the warriors: he brandished his spear over three hundred, slain at one time. And after him was Eleazar the son of Dodo, the Ahohite, who was one of the three mighty men. He was with David at Pas-dammim; and there the Philistines were gathered together for battle, where was a parcel of ground full of barley; and the people fled from before the Philistines. And they set themselves in the midst of that parcel, and delivered it, and slew the Philistines; and Jehovah saved *them* by a great deliverance.

Now three of the thirty captains went down to the rock to David, into the cave of Adullam; and the host of the Philistines lay encamped in the valley of Rephaim. And David was then in the strong-hold, and the garrison of the Philistines was then at Beth-lehem. And David longed, and said, "O that one would give me drink of the water of the well of Beth-lehem, that is at the gate!" And the three brake through the host of the Philistines, and drew water out of the well of Beth-lehem, that was by the gate, and took it, and brought it to David; but David would not drink of it, but poured it out unto Jehovah, and said, "My God forbid that I should do this thing: shall I drink the blood of these men that have put their lives in jeopardy? for with their lives they brought it." Therefore he would not drink it. These things did these three mighty men.

And Abishai the brother of Joab, he was the chief of the second three: for he brandished his spear over three hundred slain; and he had a name among the three. Of the three, he was more honourable than the two; for he was their captain; yet he attained not to the first three. Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, the son of a valiant man of Kabzeel,

who had done mighty deeds ; he slew two lion-like champions of Moab : yea, he went down and slew a lion in a pit-fall on 23 a snowy day. And he slew an Egyptian, a man of great stature, five cubits high ; and in the Egyptian's hand was a spear like a weaver's beam ; and he went down to him with a staff, and plucked the spear out of the Egyptian's hand, and slew 24 him with his own spear. These things did Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and had a name among the three mighty men. 25 Behold, he was honourable among the thirty, but attained not to the first three : and David set him over his audience-chamber.

26 Also the valiant men of the armies were, Asahel the brother of Joab, Elhanan the son of Dodo of Beth-lshem ; 27 Shammoth the Harorite, Helez the Pelonite ; Ira the son of 28 Ikkesh the Tekoite, Abi-ezer the Antothite ; Sibbeccai the 29 Hushathite, Ilai the Ahohite, Maharai the Netophathite, 30 Heled the son of Baahnah the Netophathite ; Ithai the son of Ribai of Gibeah, which belonged to the children of Benjamin, 31 Benaiah the Pirathonite ; Hurai of the brooks of Gaash, 32 Abiel the Arbathite ; Azmaveth the Baharumite, Eliabha the 33 Shaalbonite ; the sons of Hashem the Gizonite, Jonathan the 34 son of Shage the Hararite ; Ahiam the son of Sacar the 35 Hararite, Eliphal the son of Ur ; Hepher the Mecherathite, 36 Ahijah the Pelonite ; Hezro the Carmelite, Naarai the son of 37 Ebzai ; Joel the brother of Nathan, Mibhar the son of Haggeri ; 38 Zelek the Ammonite, Naharai the Berothite, the armour- 39 bearer of Joab the son of Zeruiyah ; Ira the Ithrite, Gareb the 40 Ithrite ; Uriah the Hittite, Zabad the son of Ahlai ; Adina the 41 son of Shiza the Reubenite, the captain of the Reubenites, 42 and thirty with him ; Hanan the son of Maachah, and Josha- 43 phat the Mithnite ; Uzzia the Ashterathite, Shama and Jehiel 44 the sons of Hothan the Aroerite ; Jediael the son of Shimri, 45 and Joha his brother, the Tizite ; Eliel the Mahavite, and 46 Jeribai, and Joshaviah, the sons of Elnasm, and Ithmah the 47 Moabite ; Eliel, and Obed, and Jasiel the Mesobaite.

1 CHAP. XII.—Now these are they that came to David to Ziklag, while he yet kept himself close because of Saul the son of Kish : and they were among the mighty men, helpers 2 of the war. *They were* armed with bows, and could use both the right hand and the left in hurling stones and shooting arrows out of a bow, even of Saul's brethren of Benjamin. 3 The chief was Ahiezer, then Joash, the sons of Shemaah.

the Gibeathite ; and Jexiel, and Pelet, the sons of Azmaveth ; and Berachah, and Jehu the Anathothite, and Ismaiah the 4 Gibeonite, a mighty man among the thirty, and over the thirty ; and Jeremiah, and Jahaziel, and Johanan, and Josabad the Gederathite ; Eluzai, and Jeremoth, and Bealiah, and She- 5 mariah, and Shephatiah the Haruphite ; Elkanaah, and Jesiah, 6 and Azareel, and Joezer, and Jashobeam, the Korhites ; and 7 Joelah, and Zebadiah, the sons of Jeroham of Gedor.

And of the Gadites there separated themselves unto David 8 into the strong-hold to the wilderness, men of might, warriors for the battle, that could handle shield and spear ; their faces were like the faces of lions, and they were as swift as the antelopes upon the mountains ; Ezer the first, Obadiah the 9 second, Eliab the third ; Mishmannah the fourth, Jeremiah 10 the fifth ; Attai the sixth, Eliel the seventh ; Johanan the 12 eighth, Elzabad the ninth ; Jeremiah the tenth, Machbanai 13 the eleventh. These were of the sons of Gad, captains of 14 the host ; one of the least was over an hundred, and the greatest over a thousand. These are they that went over 15 Jordan in the first month, when it had overflowed all its banks ; and they put to flight all *them* of the valleys, toward the east, and toward the west.

And there came *certain* of the children of Benjamin and 16 Judah to the strong-hold unto David. And David went out 17 to meet them, and answered and said unto them, “ If ye be come peaceably unto me to help me, my heart shall be knit unto you : but if to betray me to mine enemies, seeing there is no wrong in my hands, the God of our fathers look *there-on*, and rebuke it.” Then the spirit came upon Amasai, who 18 was chief of the warriors, and he said,

“ Thine are we, O David,
And on thy side, thou son of Jesse :
Peace, peace be unto thee,
And peace be to thy helpers,
For thy God hath helped thee.”

Then David received them, and made them captains of the band.

And of Manasseh *some* revolted to David, when he came 19 with the Philistines against Saul to battle : but he helped them not : for the lords of the Philistines upon advisement sent him away, saying, “ He will revolt to his master Saul to *the jeopardy of our heads.*” As he went to Ziklag, there 20 revolted to him of Manasseh, Adnah, and Jozabad, and Je-

drael, and Michael, and Jozabad, and Elihu, and Zillethai,
21 captains of the thousands of Manasseh. And they helped
David against the bands of plunderers: for they were all
22 mighty men of valour, and were captains in the host. For
day by day there came men to David to help him, until it
was a great host, like the host of God.

23 And these are the numbers of the bands that were ready
armed for the war, which came to David to Hebron, to turn
the kingdom of Saul to him, according to the word of Je-
24 hovah. The children of Judah that bare shield and spear,
six thousand and eight hundred, ready armed for the war.
25 Of the children of Simon, mighty men of valour for the
26 war, seven thousand and one hundred. Of the children of
27 Levi, four thousand and six hundred. And Jehoiada the
leader of the Aaronites, and with him three thousand and
28 seven hundred; and Zadok, a young man mighty of valour;
29 and of his father's house, twenty and two captains. And of
the children of Benjamin, the brethren of Saul, three thou-
sand: for hitherto the greatest part of them had kept their
30 allegiance to the house of Saul. And of the children of
Ephraim, twenty thousand and eight hundred, mighty men of
31 valour, men of renown in the house of their fathers. And
of the half tribe of Manasseh, eighteen thousand, who were
32 called forth by name, to come and make David king. And
of the children of Issachar, *all* that had understanding of
the times, to know what Israel ought to do; the chiefs of
them were two hundred; and all their brethren were at their
33 commandment. Of Zebulun, such as went forth to battle,
expert in war, with all manner of weapons of war, fifty thou-
sand, who could keep rank: they were not of double heart.
34 And of Naphtali, a thousand captains, and with them, with
35 shield and spear, thirty-seven thousand. And of the Danites
36 expert in war, twenty-eight thousand and six hundred. And
of Asher, such as went forth to battle, expert in war, forty
37 thousand. And *of those who dwelt* on the other side of Jor-
dan, of the Reubenites, and the Gadites, and the half tribe
of Manasseh, with all manner of weapons of war for the
38 battle, a hundred and twenty thousand. All these warriors
who could keep rank, came with a perfect heart to Hebron,
to make David king over all Israel: and all the rest also of
39 Israel were of one heart to make David king. And they
were there with David three days, eating and drinking: for
40 their brethren had prepared for them. Moreover they that

were nigh unto them, even unto Issachar, and Zebulun, and Naphtali, brought bread on asses, and on camels, and on mules, and on oxen, *and* meat, meal, cakes of figs, and bunches of raisins, and wine, and oil, and oxen, and sheep abundantly: for there was joy in Israel.

CHAP. XIII.—And David consulted with the captains of 1 thousands and hundreds, *even* with every leader. And David 2 said unto all the congregation of Israel, “If it seem good unto you, and that it be of Jehovah our God, let us send abroad unto our brethren every where, that are left in all the land of Israel, and along with them to the priests and Levites who are in the cities of their territories, that they may gather themselves unto us: and let us bring again the ark 3 of our God to us: for we enquired not at it in the days of Saul.” And all the congregation said that they would do 4 so: for the thing was right in the eyes of all the people. So 5 David gathered all Israel together, from Shihor *the river* of Egypt even unto Hamath, to bring the ark of God from Kirjath-jearim. And David went up, and all Israel, to Baalah, 6 that is, to Kirjath-jearim, which *belonged* to Judah, to bring up thence the ark of the Lord Jehovah who dwelleth *between* the cherubim, by whose name it is called. And they carried 7 the ark of God in a new waggon, out of the house of Abinadab: and Uzza and Ahio drove the waggon. And David and 8 all Israel danced before God with all their might, and with songs, and with harps, and with psalteries, and with timbrels, and with cymbals, and with trumpets.

And they came unto the threshing-floor of Chidon; and 9 Uzza put forth his hand to hold the ark; for the oxen stumbled. And the anger of Jehovah was kindled against Uzza, and he 10 smote him, because he put his hand to the ark: and he died there before God. And David was grieved, because Jehovah 11 had broken forth upon Uzza: wherefore that place is called Perez-uzza, [THE BREACH ON UZZA,] to this day. And David 12 was afraid of God that day, saying, “How shall I bring the ark of God *home* to me?” So David brought not the ark 13 *home* to himself to the city of David; but carried it aside into the house of Obed-edom the Gittite. And the ark of 14 God remained with the family of Obed-edom in his house three months. And Jehovah blessed the house of Obed-edom, and all that he had.

CHAP. XIV.—Now Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, and timber of cedars, with masons and carpenters, to build him a house: And David perceived that Jehovah had confirmed him as king over Israel, for his kingdom was lifted up on high, because of his people Israel.

3 And David took more wives at Jerusalem: and David begat more sons and daughters. And these are the names of the children whom he had in Jerusalem: Shammua, and Shobab, Nathan, and Solomon; and Ibhar, and Elishua, and Elpalet; and Nogah, and Nepheg, and Japhia; and Elishama, and Beeliada, and Eliphetalet.

8 And when the Philistines heard that David was anointed king over all Israel, all the Philistines went up to seek David. 9 And David heard of it, and went out against them. And the Philistines came and spread themselves in the valley of Rephaim. And David enquired of God, saying, “Shall I go up against the Philistines? and wilt thou deliver them into my hand?” And Jehovah said unto him, “Go up; for I will deliver them into thy hand.” So they came up to Baal-perazim; and David smote them there. Then David said, “God hath broken forth upon mine enemies by my hand, like the breaking forth of waters:” therefore they called the name of that place Baal-perazim: [THE PLACE OF BREAKING FORTH.] And they left their gods there; and David gave a commandment, and they were burned with fire. And the Philistines yet again spread themselves abroad in the valley. 14 Therefore David enquired again of God; and God said unto him, “Go not up after them; turn away from them, and come upon them over against the balsams. And it shall be, when thou shalt hear a sound of marching upon the tops of the balsams, that then thou shalt go out to battle: for God is gone forth before thee to smite the host of the Philistines.” David therefore did as God commanded him: and they smote the host of the Philistines from Gibeon even to Gazer. And the fame of David went out into all lands; and Jehovah brought the fear of him upon all nations.

1 CHAP. XV.—And *David* made unto himself houses in the city of David, and prepared a place for the ark of God, and pitched for it a tent. Then David said, “None ought to carry the ark of God but the Levites: for them hath Jehovah chosen to carry the ark of God, and to minister unto him for ever.” And David gathered all Israel together to

Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of Jehovah unto its place, which he had prepared for it. And David assembled the 4 children of Aaron, and the Levites : of the sons of Kohath, 5 Uriel the chief, and his brethren a hundred and twenty : of 6 the sons of Merari, Asaiah the chief, and his brethren two hundred and twenty : of the sons of Gershom, Joel the 7 chief, and his brethren a hundred and thirty : of the sons 8 of Elizaphan, Shemaiah the chief, and his brethren two hundred : of the sons of Hebron, Eliel the chief, and his 9 brethren eighty : of the sons of Uzziel, Amminadab the 10 chief, and his brethren a hundred and twelve. And David 11 called for Zadoc and Abiathar the priests, and for the Levites, for Uriel, Asaiah, and Joel, Shemaiah, and Eliel, and Ammi- 12 nadab : and said unto them, "Ye are the chief of the fa-
thers of the Levites : sanctify yourselves, both ye and your
brethren, that ye may bring up the ark of Jehovah the God
of Israel unto *the place which I have prepared for it.* For be- 13 cause ye did it not at the first, Jehovah our God brake
forth upon us, because we sought him not after the due
order." So the priests and the Levites sanctified themselves, 14 to bring up the ark of Jehovah the God of Israel. And the 15 children of the Levites bare the ark of God upon their shoul-
ders, with the staves thereon, as Moses commanded, according
to the word of Jehovah. And David spake to the chief of 16 the Levites, to appoint their brethren to be the singers, with
instruments of musick, psalteries and harps, and cymbals,
causing the hills to re-echo to the voice with joy. So the Le- 17 vites appointed Heman the son of Joel ; and of his brethren,
Asaph the son of Berechiah ; and of the sons of Merari their
brethren, Ethan the son of Kushaiah ; and with them their 18 brethren of the second degree, Zechariah, Ben, and Jaaziel,
and Shemiramoth, and Jehiel, and Unni, Eliab, and Benaiah,
and Maaseiah, and Mattithiah, and Elipheleh, and Mikneiah,
and Obed-edom, and Jeiel, the porters. So the singers, 19
Heman, Asaph, and Ethan, *were appointed* to sound with
cymbals of brass ; and Zechariah, and Aziel, and Shemira- 20
moth, and Jehiel, and Unni, and Eliab, and Maaseiah, and
Benaiah, with lutes, after the manner of damsels ; and 21
Mattithiah, and Elipheleh, and Mikneiah, and Obed-edom,
and Jeiel, and Azaziah, with harps, as leaders on the octave
below. And Chenaniah, chief of the Levites, was for song ; he 22
gave instruction in song, because he was skilful. And Bere- 23
chiah and Elkanah were doorkeepers for the ark. And She- 24

baniah, and Jehoshaphat, and Nethaneel, and Amasai, and Zechariah, and Benaiah, and Eliezer, the priests, blew with the trumpets before the ark of God: and Obed-edom and Jehiah were door-keepers for the ark.

- 25 So David, and the elders of Israel, and the captains over thousands, went to bring up the ark of the covenant of Jehovah out of the house of Obed-edom, with joy. And it came to pass, that when God helped the Levites who bore the ark of the covenant of Jehovah, they offered seven bullocks 27 and seven rams. And David was clothed with a robe of fine linen, and all the Levites who bore the ark, and the singers, and Chenaniah the master of the song with the singers: 28 David also had upon him an ephod of linen. Thus all Israel brought up the ark of the covenant of Jehovah with shouting, and with sound of the clarion, and with trumpets, and with cymbals, resounding with lutes and harps.
- 29 And it came to pass, as the ark of the covenant of Jehovah came to the city of David, that Michal the daughter of Saul looked out at a window, and saw king David leaping and dancing: and she despised him in her heart.

- 1 CHAP. XVI.—So they brought the ark of God, and set it in the midst of the tent which David had pitched for it: and they offered burnt-sacrifices and peace-offerings before God.
- 2 And when David had made an end of offering the burnt-offerings and the peace-offerings, he blessed the people in the name of Jehovah. And he distributed to every one of Israel, both man and woman, to every one a loaf of bread, and a flagon of wine, and a cake of raisins.
- 4 And he appointed certain of the Levites to minister before the ark of Jehovah, and to celebrate and thank and praise Jehovah the God of Israel: Asaph the chief, and next to him Zechariah, Jeiel, and Shemiramoth, and Jehiel, and Mattithiah, and Eliab, and Benaiah, and Obed-edom: and Jeiel praised Jehovah with lutes and harps; and Asaph sounded the cymbals; Benaiah also and Jahaziel the priests sounded trumpets continually before the ark of the covenant of God.
- 7 Then on that day David first delivered *this psalm* of thanksgiving to Jehovah, into the hand of Asaph and his brethren:—

- 8 “ Give thanks unto Jehovah, call upon his name,
Make known his deeds among the people.”

Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him, Recount ye all his wondrous works.	9
Glory ye in his holy name :	10
Let the heart of them that seek Jehovah rejoice.	
 “ Seek Jehovah and his strength, Seek his face continually.	11
Remember his marvellous works that he hath done, His wonders, and the judgments of his mouth.	12
 “ O ye seed of Israel his servant, Ye children of Jacob, his chosen ones,	13
He is Jehovah our God ;	14
His judgments are in all the earth.	
He hath always been mindful of his covenant,	15
The word which he commanded for a thousand genera-	
tions ;	
<i>The covenant</i> which he made with Abraham,	16
And his oath unto Isaac ;	
And which he hath confirmed to Jacob for a law,	17
To Israel for an everlasting covenant ;	
Saying, ‘ Unto thee will I give the land of Canaan,	18
The lot of your inheritance ;’	
When ye were but small in number,	19
Even a few, and strangers in it.	
 “ And when they went from nation to nation, And from one kingdom to another people,	20
He suffered no man to do them wrong :	21
Yea, he reproved kings for their sakes,	
Saying, ‘ Touch not mine anointed,	22
And do my prophets no harm.’	
 “ Sing unto Jehovah, all the earth ; Shew forth from day to day his salvation.	23
Declare his glory among the heathen,	24
His marvellous works among all nations.	
For Jehovah is great, and greatly to be praised,	25
And he is to be feared above all gods ;	
For all the gods of the nations are idols,	26
But Jehovah made the heavens.	
Glory and honour are in his presence ;	27
Strength and gladness are in his dwelling-place.	

28 “ Give unto Jehovah, ye families of nations,
Give unto Jehovah glory and strength.
29 Give unto Jehovah the glory due unto his name,
Bring an offering, and come before him ;
Worship Jehovah in festive attire.
30 Tremble before him, all the earth :
The world also shall stand fast, it shall not be moved.

31 “ Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice,
And let men say among the nations, Jehovah reigneth !
32 Let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof :
Let the fields rejoice, and all that is therein.
33 Then shall the trees of the wood sing aloud
At the presence of Jehovah ; because he cometh,
He cometh to judge the earth.

34 “ O give thanks unto Jehovah, for he is good,
For his mercy endureth for ever ;
35 And say ye, ‘ Save us, O God of our salvation,
And gather us together, and deliver us from the heathen,
That we may give thanks to thy holy name,
And glory in thy praise.’

36 “ Blessed be Jehovah the God of Israel for ever and
ever !”

And all the people said, “Amen!” and praised Jehovah. So
37 he left there before the ark of the covenant of Jehovah Asaph
and his brethren, to minister before the ark continually, as
38 every day’s work required : and *the sons of* Obed-edom with
their brethren, sixty-eight men ; Obed-edom also the son of
39 Jeduthun, and Hosah to be porters : and Zadok the priest, and
his brethren the priests, before the tabernacle of Jehovah in
40 the high place that was at Gibeon, to offer burnt-offerings
unto Jehovah upon the altar of the burnt-offering continually,
morning and evening, and *to do* according to all that is written
41 in the law of Jehovah, which he commanded Israel ; and with
them Heman and Jeduthun, and the rest that were chosen,
who were appointed by name, to give thanks unto Jehovah,
42 because his mercy endureth for ever ; and with them Heman
and Jeduthun with trumpets and cymbals to make a sound,
and with the musical instruments of God. And the sons of

Jeduthun were porters. And all the people departed every man to his house: and David returned to bless his house.

CHAP. XVII.—Now it came to pass, as David sat in his house, that David said to Nathan the prophet, “Lo, I dwell in a house of cedars, but the ark of the covenant of Jehovah remaineth under curtains.” Then Nathan said unto David, “Do all that is in thy heart; for God is with thee.”

But it came to pass the same night, that the word of God came to Nathan, saying, “Go and tell David my servant, Thus saith Jehovah, ‘Thou shalt not build me a house to dwell in: for I have not dwelt in a house since the day that I brought up Israel out of Egypt unto this day; but have gone from tent to tent, and from *one* tabernacle to *another*. Wheresoever I have walked with all Israel, spake I a word to any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to feed my people, saying, Why have ye not built me a house of cedars? Now therefore, thus shalt thou say unto my servant David, Thus saith Jehovah of hosts, I took thee from the sheep-cote, even from following the sheep, that thou shouldest be ruler over my people Israel: and I have been with thee whithersoever thou hast walked, and have cut off all thine enemies from before thee, and have made thee a name like the name of the great men that are in the earth. Also I will ordain a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, and they shall dwell in their place, and shall be moved no more; neither shall the children of wickedness waste them any more, as at the beginning, and since the time that I commanded judges to be over my people Israel. Moreover I will subdue all thine enemies. Furthermore I tell thee that Jehovah will build thee a house. And it shall come to pass, when thy days shall be expired that thou must go to be with thy fathers, that I will raise up thy seed after thee, one who shall be of thy sons; and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build me a house, and I will establish his throne for ever. I will be his father, and he shall be my son: and I will not take my mercy away from him, as I took it from him that was before thee: but I will settle him in my house and in my kingdom for ever: and his throne shall be established for evermore.’” According to all these words, and according to all this vision, so did Nathan speak unto David.

1 And David the king came and sat before Jehovah, and said,
“Who am I, O Lord Jehovah, and what is my house, that
17 thou hast brought me hitherto? And yet this was a small thing
in thine eyes, O God; for thou hast also spoken of thy ser-
vant’s house for a great while to come, and hast regarded me
according to the manner of a man of high degree, O Lord
18 Jehovah. What can David speak more to thee for the ho-
19 nour of thy servant? for thou knowest thy servant. O Je-
hovah, for thy servant’s sake, and according to thine own
heart, thou hast done all this greatness, in making known all
20 these great things. O Jehovah, there is none like thee,
neither is there any God beside thee, according to all that we
21 have heard with our ears. And what one nation in the earth
is like thy people Israel, whom God went forth to redeem to
be his own people, to make unto thee a name of greatness
and terribleness, by driving out nations from before thy
22 people, whom thou hast redeemed out of Egypt? for thy
people Israel thou didst make thine own people for ever; and
23 thou, Jehovah, didst become their God. Therefore now, Jehovah;
let the thing that thou hast spoken concerning thy ser-
vant and concerning his house be established for ever, and do
24 as thou hast said. Let it even be established, that thy name
may be magnified for ever, saying, ‘Jehovah of hosts is the
God of Israel, even a God to Israel:’ and let the house of
25 David thy servant be established before thee. For thou, O
my God, hast told thy servant that thou wilt build him a
house: therefore thy servant hath found *in his heart* to pray
26 before thee. And now, Jehovah, thou art God, and hast pro-
27 mised this goodness unto thy servant: now therefore let it
please thee to bless the house of thy servant, that it may be
before thee for ever: for thou hast blessed, O Jehovah, and it
shall be blessed for ever.”

1 CHAP. XVIII.—Now after this it came to pass, that
David smote the Philistines, and subdued them; and he took
2 Gath and its towns out of the hand of the Philistines. And
he smote Moab; and the Moabites became David’s servants,
3 paying tribute. And David smote Hadarezer king of Zobah,
at Hamath, as he went to establish his dominion by the
4 river Euphrates. And David took from him a thousand
chariots, and seven thousand horsemen, and twenty thousand
footmen: David also hamstrung all the chariot horses, but
5 reserved of them a hundred chariots. And the Syrians of

Damascus came to help Hadarezer king of Zobah; and David slew of the Syrians twenty-two thousand men. Then David put *garrisons* in Syria of Damascus; and the Syrians became David's servants, paying tribute. Thus Jehovah preserved David whithersoever he went. And David took the shields of gold that were on the servants of Hadarezer, and brought them to Jerusalem. Likewise from Tibhath, and from Chun, cities of Hadarezer, David brought very much brass, wherewith Solomon made the brasen sea, and the columns, and the vessels of brass.

Now when Tou king of Hamath heard how David had smitten all the host of Hadarezer king of Zobah, he sent Hadoram his son to king David, to enquire of his welfare, and to congratulate him, because he had fought against Hadarezer, and smitten him; (for Hadarezer had war with Tou;) and with him all manner of vessels of gold and silver and brass. Them also king David dedicated unto Jehovah, with the silver and the gold that he brought from all these nations; from Edom, and from Moab, and from the children of Ammon, and from the Philistines, and from Amalek.

Moreover Abishai the son of Zeruiah slew of the Edomites, in the valley of salt, eighteen thousand. And he put garrisons in Edom; and all the Edomites became David's servants. Thus Jehovah preserved David whithersoever he went.

So David reigned over all Israel, and executed judgment and justice among all his people. And Joab the son of Zeruiah was over the host; and Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud, was remembrancer: and Zadok the son of Ahitub, and Abimelech the son of Abiathar, were the priests; and Shavsha the secretary; and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over the lictors and the harbingers; and the sons of David were chief ministers.

CHAP. XIX.—Now it came to pass after this, that Nahash the king of the children of Ammon died, and his son reigned in his stead. And David said, “I will shew kindness unto Hanun the son of Nahash, because his father shewed kindness to me.” And David sent messengers to comfort him concerning his father. So the servants of David came into the land of the children of Ammon, to Hanun, to comfort him. But the princes of the children of Ammon said to Hanun, “Thinkest thou that David doth honour thy father, that he hath sent comforters unto thee? Are not his servants come unto

thee to search, and to overthrow, and to spy out the land ? ”
4 Then Hanun took David’s servants, and shaved them, and cut off their garments in the midst close by their haunches, and sent them away. Then there went certain persons, and told David how the men were treated. And he sent to meet them : for the men were greatly ashamed. And the king said, “ Tarry at Jericho until your beards be grown, and then return.”
6 And when the children of Ammon saw that they had made themselves hateful to David, Hanun and the children of Ammon sent a thousand talents of silver to hire chariots and horsemen out of Mesopotamia, and out of Syria-maachah, and out of Zobah. So they hired thirty-two thousand chariots, and the king of Maachah and his people ; who came and pitched before Medeba. And the children of Ammon gathered themselves together from their cities, and came to battle. And when David heard of it, he sent Joab, and all the host of the mighty men. And the children of Ammon came out, and set themselves in battle array before the gate of the city : and the kings who were come were by themselves in the field. And when Joab saw that the front of the battle was set against him before and behind, he chose out of all the chosen men of Israel, and put *them* in array against the Syrians. And the rest of the people he delivered unto the hand of Abishai his brother, and they set themselves in array against the children of Ammon. And he said, “ If the Syrians be too strong for me, then thou shalt help me : but if the children of Ammon be too strong for thee, then I will help thee. Be of good courage, and let us behave ourselves valiantly for our people, and for the cities of our God : and let Jehovah do that which is good in his sight.” So Joab and the people that were with him drew nigh before the Syrians unto the battle : and they fled before him. And when the children of Ammon saw that the Syrians were fled, they likewise fled before Abishai his brother, and entered into the city. Then Joab came to Jerusalem.
16 And when the Syrians saw that they were routed before Israel, they sent messengers, and brought the Syrians that were beyond the river : and Shophach the captain of the host of Hadarezer went before them. And it was told unto David ; and he gathered all Israel, and passed over Jordan, and came upon them, and set the host in array against them. And when David had put the battle in array against the Syrians, they fought with him. But the Syrians fled before

Israel; and David slew of the Syrians seven thousand charioteers, and forty thousand footmen, and killed Shophach the captain of the host. And when the servants of Hadarezer saw that they were routed before Israel, they made peace with David, and became his servants: neither would the Syrians help the children of Ammon any more.

CHAP. XX.—And it came to pass, after the year was 1 expired, at the time that kings go out *to battle*, that Joab led forth the power of the army, and wasted the country of the children of Ammon, and came and besieged Rabbah. But David tarried at Jerusalem. And Joab smote Rabbah, and destroyed it. And David took the crown of their king from 2 off his head, and found it to weigh a talent of gold; and there were precious stones in it; and it was set upon David's head: and he brought also exceeding much spoil out of the city. And he brought out the people that were in it, and 3 cut them with saws, and with harrows of iron, and with axes. Even so dealt David with all the cities of the children of Ammon. And David and all the people returned to Jerusalem.

And it came to pass after this, that there arose war at Gerez with the Philistines; at which time Sibbechai the Hushathite slew Sippai, one of the children of Rapha: and they were subdued. And there was war again with the Philistines; and Elhanan the son of Jair slew Lahmi the brother of Goliath the Gittite, whose spear-shaft was like a weaver's beam. And yet again there was war at Gath, where was a 6 man of *great* stature, whose fingers and toes were four and twenty, six *on each hand*, and six *on each foot*: and he also was descended from Rapha. But when he defied Israel, Jo-nathan the son of Shimea David's brother slew him. These 7 were descended from Rapha in Gath; and they fell by the hand of David, and by the hand of his servants.

CHAP. XXI.—And Satan stood up against Israel, and 1 stirred up David to number Israel. And David said to Joab 2 and to the rulers of the people, “Go, number Israel from Beer-sheba even to Dan; and bring the number of them to me, that I may know it.” And Joab answered, “Jehovah 3 make his people a hundred times as many more as they are: but, my lord the king, are they not all my lord's servants? why then doth my lord require this thing? why will he be a cause of trespass to Israel?” Nevertheless the king's word 4

prevailed against Joab. Wherefore Joab departed, and went
5 throughout all Israel, and came to Jerusalem. And Joab
gave the sum of the number of the people unto David. And
all *the men of* Israel were a million and a hundred thousand
men that drew sword, and *of* Judah, four hundred and
6 seventy thousand men that drew sword. But Levi and
Benjamin he counted not among them : for the king's word
7 was abominable to Joab. And God was displeased with this
8 thing ; therefore he smote Israel. And David said unto
God, “ I have sinned greatly, because I have done this thing :
but now, I beseech thee, do away the iniquity of thy ser-
9 vant ; for I have done very foolishly.” And Jehovah spake
unto Gad, David's seer, saying, “ Go and tell David, saying,
10 ‘ Thus saith Jehovah, I offer thee three things : choose thee
11 one of them, that I may do it unto thee.’ ” So Gad came to
David, and said unto him, “ Thus saith Jehovah, ‘ Choose
12 thee either three years' famine ; or three months to be de-
stroyed before thy foes, while the sword of thine enemies over-
takeketh *thee* ; or else three days *with* the sword of Jehovah, even
the pestilence, in the land, and the angel of Jehovah
destroying throughout all the borders of Israel.’ Now there-
fore consider what answer I shall bring to him that sent
13 me.” And David said unto Gad, “ I am in a great strait :
let me fall now into the hand of Jehovah ; for his mercies are
14 very great : but let me not fall into the hand of man.” So Je-
hovah sent pestilence upon Israel : and there fell of Israel
15 seventy thousand men. And God sent an angel unto Jeru-
salem to destroy it : and as he was destroying, Jehovah beheld,
and he repented him of the evil, and said to the destroying
angel, “ It is enough ; stay now thy hand.” And the angel
of Jehovah stood by the threshing-floor of Ornan the Jebusite.
16 And David lifted up his eyes, and saw the angel of Jehovah
standing between earth and heaven, having a drawn sword in
his hand, stretched out over Jerusalem. Then David and
the elders of *Israel*, who were clothed in sackcloth, fell upon
17 their faces. And David said unto God, “ Is it not I who
commanded the people to be numbered ? Yea it is I who have
sinned and done this great evil ; but as for these sheep, what
have they done ? Let thy hand, I pray thee, O Jehovah
my God, be on me, and on my father's house ; but not on
18 thy people, that they should be smitten.” Then the angel
of Jehovah commanded Gad to say to David, that David
should go up, and set up an altar unto Jehovah in the thresh-

ing-floor of Ornan the Jebusite. And David went up at the 19 saying of Gad, which he spake in the name of Jehovah: And Ornan turned back, and saw the angel; and his four 20 sons with him hid themselves. Now Ornan was threshing wheat. And as David came to Ornan, Ornan looked and 21 saw David, and went out of the threshing-floor, and bowed himself to David with his face to the ground. Then David 22 said to Ornan, "Grant me the place of this threshing-floor, that I may build an altar therein unto Jehovah: thou shalt grant it unto me for the full price: that the plague may be stayed from the people." And Ornan said unto David, "Take 23 it unto thee, and let my lord the king do that which is good in his eyes: behold I give the oxen *also* for burnt-offerings, and the threshing instruments for wood, and the wheat for the meal-offering; I give it all." And king David said to 24 Ornan, "Nay; but I will verily buy it for the full price: for I will not take that which is thine for Jehovah, nor offer burnt-offerings without cost." So David gave to Ornan, for the place, 25 six hundred shekels of gold by weight. And David built 26 there an altar unto Jehovah, and offered burnt-offerings and peace-offerings, and called upon Jehovah; and he answered him from heaven by fire upon the altar of burnt-offering. And Jehovah commanded the angel; and he put up his 27 sword again into its sheath.

At that time when David saw that Jehovah had answered 28 him in the threshing-floor of Ornan the Jebusite, then he sacrificed there. For the tabernacle of Jehovah which Moses 29 had made in the wilderness, and the altar of the burnt-offering, were at that season in the high place at Gibeon. But so 30 David could not go before it to enquire of God: for he was afraid, because of the sword of the angel of Jehovah.

CHAP. XXII.—Then David said, "This is the house of 1 Jehovah *our* God, and this is the altar of the burnt-offering for Israel." And David commanded to gather together the 2 strangers that were in the land of Israel; and he set stone-cutters to hew wrought stones to build the house of God. And David prepared iron in abundance, for the nails for the 3 doors of the gates, and for the bolts; and brass in abundance, without weight; also cedar trees without number: for the 4 Zidonians and the Tyrians brought cedars in abundance to David. And David said, "Solomon my son is young and 5 tender, and the house that is to be built for Jehovah must be

exceeding magnificent, of fame and of glory throughout all lands: I will *therefore* now make preparation for it." So David prepared abundantly before his death.

6 Then he called for Solomon his son, and charged him to
7 build a house for Jehovah the God of Israel. And David
said unto Solomon, "My son, as for me, it was in my heart
8 to build a house unto the name of Jehovah my God: but
the word of Jehovah came to me, saying, 'Thou hast shed
blood abundantly, and hast made great wars: thou shalt not
9 build a house unto my name, because thou hast shed much
blood upon the earth in my sight. Behold, a son shall be
born unto thee, who shall be a man of rest; and I will give
him rest from all his enemies round about: for his name
shall be Solomon, and I will give peace and quietness unto
10 Israel in his days. He shall build a house for my name;
and he shall be my son, and I will be his father; and I will
establish the throne of his kingdom over Israel for ever.'

11 Now, my son, Jehovah be with thee; and be thou prosperous,
and build the house of Jehovah thy God, as he hath said of
12 thee. Only Jehovah give thee wisdom and understanding,
and direct thee *how to rule* over Israel, that thou mayest keep
13 the law of Jehovah thy God. Then shalt thou prosper, if
thou takest heed to fulfil the statutes and judgments with
which Jehovah charged Moses concerning Israel: be strong,
14 and of good courage; dread not, nor be dismayed. Now,
behold, in my trouble I have prepared for the house of
Jehovah a hundred thousand talents of gold, and a million
of talents of silver; and of brass and iron without weight;
for it is in abundance: timber also and stone have I prepared;
15 and thou wilt add thereunto. Moreover there are workmen
with thee in abundance, hewers and carvers of stone and tim-
ber, and all manner of skilful men for every manner of work.
16 Of the gold, the silver, and the brass, and the iron, there is
no number. Arise *therefore*, and be doing, and Jehovah be
with thee."

17 And David commanded all the princes of Israel to help
18 Solomon his son, *saying*, "Is not Jehovah your God with you?
and hath he not given you rest on every side? for he hath
given the inhabitants of the land into my hand; and the
19 land is subdued before Jehovah, and before his people. Now
set your heart and your soul to seek Jehovah your God;
arise therefore, and build ye the sanctuary of Jehovah *our*

God, to bring the ark of the covenant of Jehovah, and the holy vessels of God, into the house that is to be built unto the name of Jehovah."

CHAP. XXIII.—And when David was old and full of days, he made Solomon his son king over Israel.

And he gathered together all the princes of Israel, and the priests and the Levites. Now the Levites were numbered, from the age of thirty years and upward: and their number by their polls, man by man, was thirty-eight thousand. Of these, twenty-four thousand were to superintend the work of the house of Jehovah; and six thousand were officers and judges: and four thousand were porters; and four thousand praised Jehovah "with the instruments which I have made," said David, "to praise therewith."

And David divided them into courses among the sons of Levi, namely, Gershon, Kohath, and Merari.

Of the Gershonites were, Laadan, and Shimei. The sons of Laadan; the chief was Jehiel, and Zetham, and Joel, three. The sons of Shimei; Shelomith, and Haziel, and Haran, three. These were the chief of the fathers of Laadan. And the sons of Shimei were, Jahath, Zina, and Jeush, and Beriah. These four were the sons of Shimei. And u Jahath was the chief, and Zizah the second: but Jeush and Beriah had not many sons; therefore they were in one reckoning, according to their father's house.

The sons of Kohath; Amram, Izhar, Hebron, and Uzziel, four. The sons of Amram; Aaron and Moses. And Aaron was separated, that he should sanctify the most holly things, he and his sons for ever, to burn incense before Jehovah, to minister unto him, and to bless in his name for ever. And as for Moses the man of God, his sons were named of the tribe of Levi. The sons of Moses were Gershom and Eliezer. Of the sons of Gershom, Shebuel was the chief. And the sons of Eliezer were, Rehabiah the chief. And Eliezer had no other sons; but the sons of Rehabiah were very many. Of the sons of Izhar; Shelomith the chief. Of the sons of Hebron; Jeriah the first, Amariah the second, Jahaziel the third, and Jekameam the fourth. Of the sons of Uzziel; Micah the first, and Jesiah the second.

The sons of Merari; Mahli, and Mushi. The sons of Mahli; Eleazar, and Kish. And Eleazar died, and had no

sons, but daughters : and their brethren the sons of Kish took
23 them. The sons of Mushi ; Mahli, and Eder, and Jeremoth,
three.

24 These were the sons of Levi after the house of their fa-
thers ; even the chief of the fathers, as they were counted
by number of names, by their polls ; who did the work for
the service of the house of Jehovah, from the age of twenty
25 years and upward. For David said, "Jehovah the God of
Israel hath given rest unto his people, that they may dwell
26 in Jerusalem for ever : and also unto the Levites ; they shall
no more carry the tabernacle, nor any of its implements, for
27 the service thereof." For, by the last words of David, the
Levites were numbered from twenty years old and upward :
28 because their office was to wait on the sons of Aaron for the
service of the house of Jehovah, in the courts, and in the
chambers, and in the purifying of all holy things, and the
29 work of the service of the house of God ; both for the shew-
bread, and for the fine flour for meal-offering, and for the
unleavened cakes, and for *that which is baked in* the pan, and
for that which is fried, and for *cakes of* all manner of mea-
30 sure and size ; and to stand every morning to thank and
31 praise Jehovah, and likewise at even ; and to offer all burnt-
sacrifices unto Jehovah, on the sabbaths, at the new moons,
and on the set feasts, by number, according to the order
32 commanded unto them, continually before Jehovah : and that
they should keep the charge of the tabernacle of the con-
gregation, and the charge of the holy place, and the charge
of the sons of Aaron their brethren, in the service of the
house of Jehovah.

1 CHAP. XXIV.—Now these are the divisions of the sons
of Aaron. The sons of Aaron ; Nadab, and Abihu, Eleazar,
2 and Ithamar. But Nadab and Abihu died before their father,
and had no children : therefore Eleazar and Ithamar executed
3 the priest's office. And David distributed them, both Zadok
of the sons of Eleazar, and Ahimelech of the sons of Itha-
4 mar, according to their offices in their service. And there
were more chief men found of the sons of Eleazar than of
the sons of Ithamar ; and thus were they divided. Among the
sons of Eleazar there were sixteen chief men of the house of
their fathers ; and among the sons of Ithamar eight, accord-
5 to the house of their fathers. Thus were they divided by lot,
one sort with another ; for the chief ministers of the sanc-

tuary, and chief ministers of God, were of the sons of Eleazar, and of the sons of Ithamar. And Shemaiah the son of a Nethaneel the scribe, one of the Levites, enrolled them before the king, and the princes, and Zadok the priest, and Ahimelech the son of Abiathar, and before the chief of the fathers of the priests and Levites: one principal household being taken for Eleazar, and one taken for Ithamar.

And the first lot came forth to Jehoiarib, the second to Jedaiah; the third to Harim, the fourth to Seorim; the fifth to Malchijah, the sixth to Mijamin; the seventh to Hakkoz, the eighth to Abijah; the ninth to Jeshuah, the tenth to Shecaniah; the eleventh to Eliashib, the twelfth to Jakim; the thirteenth to Huppah, the fourteenth to Jeshebeab; the fifteenth to Bilgah, the sixteenth to Immer; the seventeenth to Hezir, the eighteenth to Aphses; the nineteenth to Pethahiah, the twentieth to Jeherekel; the twenty-first to Jachin, the twenty-second to Gamul; the twenty-third to Delaiah, the twenty-fourth to Maasiah. This was the arrangement of them in their service that they should come into the house of Jehovah, according to their order, *ordained* by Aaron their father, as Jehovah the God of Israel had commanded him.

And the rest of the sons of Levi were these: of the sons of Amram; Shubael: of the sons of Shubael; Jedeiah. Concerning Rehabiah: of the sons of Rehabiah, the first was Isshiah. Of the Izharites; Shelomoth: of the sons of Shelomoth; Jahath. And the sons of Hebron; Jeriah the first, Amariah the second, Jahaziel the third, Jekameam the fourth. The sons of Uzziel; Michah: of the sons of Michah; Shamir. The brother of Michah was Isshiah: of the sons of Isshiah, Zechariah. The sons of Merari were Mahli and Mushi: the sons of Jaaziah; Beno.

The sons of Merari by Jaaziah; Beno, and Shoham, and Zaecur, and Ibri. Of Mahli came Eleazar, who had no sons. Concerning Kish: the son of Kish was Jerahmeel. The sons also of Mushi; Mahli, and Eder, and Jerimoth. These were the sons of the Levites after the house of their fathers. These likewise cast lots even as did their brethren the sons of Aaron, in the presence of David the king, and Zadok, and Ahimelech, and the chief of the fathers of the priests and Levites, the principal fathers even as their younger brethren.

CHAP. XXV.— Moreover David and the captains of the 1

host separated to the service *certain* of the sons of Asaph, and of Heman, and of Jeduthun, who should prophesy with harps, with lutes, and with cymbals: and the number of those who ministered according to their service was: of the sons of Asaph; Zaccur, and Joseph, and Nethaniah, and Asarelah, the sons of Asaph under the hands of Asaph, who prophesied according to the order of the king. Of Jeduthun: the sons of Jeduthun; Gedaliah, and Zeri, and Isaiah, Hashabiah, and Mattithiah, six, under the hands of their father Jeduthun, who prophesied with a harp, giving thanks and praising Jehovah. Of Heman: the sons of Heman; Bukkiah, Mattaniah, Uzziel, Shebuel, and Jerimoth, Hananiah, Hanani, Eliathah, Giddalti, and Romamti-ezer, Joshbekashah, Mallothi, Hothir, and Mahazioth: all these were the sons of Heman the king's seer in the words of God, *who were* to lift up the horn. And God gave to Heman fourteen sons and three daughters. All these were under the hands of their father for song in the house of Jehovah, with cymbals, lutes, and harps, for the service of the house of God, according to the king's order to Asaph, Jeduthun, and Heman. And the number of them, with their brethren who were instructed in the songs of Jehovah, even all that were skilful, was two hundred and eighty-eight. And they cast lots for the offices, the small as well as the great, the teacher as well as the scholar. Now the first lot came forth for Asaph, to Joseph: the second to Gedaliah; he with his brethren and his sons were twelve: the third to Zaccur; *he*, his sons, and his brethren were twelve: the fourth to Izri; *he*, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve: the fifth to Nethaniah; *he*, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve: the sixth to Bukkiah; *he*, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve: the seventh to Jesharelah; *he*, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve: the eighth to Isaiah; *he*, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve: the ninth to Mattaniah; *he*, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve: the tenth to Shimei; *he*, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve: the eleventh to Azareel; *he*, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve: the twelfth to Hashabiah; *he*, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve: the thirteenth to Shubael; *he*, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve: the fourteenth to Mattithiah; *he*, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve: the fifteenth to Jerimoth; *he*, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve: the sixteenth to Hananiah; *he*, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve: the seventeenth to Joshbekashah; *he*,

his sons, and his brethren, were twelve: the eighteenth to ²⁵ Hanani; *he*, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve: the ²⁶ nineteenth to Mallothi; *he*, his sons, and his brethren, were ²⁷ twelve: the twentieth to Eliathah; *he*, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve: the twenty-first to Hothir; *he*, his ²⁸ sons, and his brethren, were twelve: the twenty-second to ²⁹ Giddalti; *he*, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve: the ³⁰ twenty-third to Mahazioth; *he*, his sons, and his brethren, ³¹ were twelve: the twenty-fourth to Romamti-ezer; *he*, his sons, and his brethren, were twelve.

CHAP. XXVI.—Concerning the divisions of the porters: 1
 Of the Korahites was Meshelemiah the son of Kore, of the sons of Asaph. And the sons of Meshelemiah were, Zerachiah the firstborn, Jediael the second, Zebadiah the third, Jathniel the fourth, Elam the fifth, Jehohanan the sixth, ³ Elioenai the seventh. Moreover the sons of Obed-edom ⁴ were, Shemaiah the firstborn, Jehozabad the second, Joah the third, and Sacar the fourth, and Nethaneel the fifth, Ammiel the sixth, Issachar the seventh, Peullethai the ⁵ eighth: for God had blessed him. Also unto Shemaiah his ⁶ son were sons born, who ruled throughout the house of their father: for they were very able men. The sons of Shemaiah; Othni, and Rephael, and Obed, Elzabad, whose brethren were able men, Elihu, and Semachiah. All ⁷ these were of the sons of Obed-edom: they and their sons and their brethren, strong and able men for the service; the ⁸ sons of Obed-edom were sixty-two. And Meshelemiah ⁹ had sons and brethren, able men, eighteen. Also Hosah, ¹⁰ of the children of Merari, had sons; Simri the chief, (for though he was not the first-born, yet his father made him the chief;) Hilkiah the second, Tebaliah the third, Zerachiah the fourth: all the sons and brethren of Hosah were thirteen. Among these were the divisions of the porters, ¹² even among the chief men, *having* offices even as their brethren, to minister in the house of Jehovah.

And they cast lots, the small as well as the great, according to the house of their fathers, for every gate. And the ¹³ lot eastward fell to Shelemiah. Then for Zechariah his son, a wise counsellor, they cast lots; and his lot came out northward. To Obed-edom, southward; and to his sons, ¹⁵ the house of the store-rooms. To Shuppim and Hosah the ¹⁶ lot came forth westward, with the gate of the passage to the

7 upper causeway. *Thus was* ward against ward. Eastward were six Levites, northward four a day, southward four a day, and toward the store-rooms two and two. At the suburb toward the west, four at the causeway, *and* two at the suburb. These are the divisions of the porters among the sons of the Korahites, and among the sons of the Merarites.

20 And of the Levites, Abijah was over the treasures of the house of God, and over the treasures of the dedicated things. The sons of Laadan; the sons of the Gershonite Laadan, chief fathers, even of Laadan the Gershonite, 22 were Jehieli. The sons of Jehieli; Zetham, and Joel his brother, *who were* over the treasures of the house of Jehovah.

23 As for the Amramites, and the Izharites, the Hebronites, 24 and the Uzzielites: . . . And Shebuel the son of Gershom, 25 the son of Moses, was chief officer over the treasures. And his brethren by Eliezer; Rehabiah his son, and Isaiah his son, and Joram his son, and Zichri his son, and Shelomith 26 his son. This Shelomith and his brethren were over all the treasures of the dedicated things, which David the king, and the chief fathers, the captains over thousands and hun- 27 dreds, and the captains of the host, had dedicated. Out of the spoils won in battles did they dedicate to maintain 28 the house of Jehovah. And all that Samuel the seer, and Saul the son of Kish, and Abner the son of Ner, and Joab the son of Zeruiah, had dedicated, *and* whosoever had dedicated *anything*, *it was* under the hand of Shelomith, and of his brethren.

29 Of the Izharites, Chenaniah and his sons were for the outward business over Israel, for officers and judges.

30 Of the Hebronites, Hashabiah and his brethren, able men, a thousand and seven hundred, were in charge over Israel on this side the Jordan westward, in all the business 31 of Jehovah, and in the service of the king. Of the He- 32 bronites, Jerijah was the chief among the Hebronites, accord- 33 ing to the generations of his fathers. In the fortieth year of the reign of David they were sought for, and there were found among them very able men, at Jazer of Gilead.

32 And his brethren, able men, were two thousand and seven hundred chief fathers; and king David made them rulers over the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half tribe of Ma- nasseh, for all the affairs pertaining to God, and the affairs of the king.

CHAP. XXVII.—And *these were* the children of Israel : after their number, the chief fathers and captains of thousands and hundreds, and their officers who served the king in any matter of the courses which came in and went out month by month throughout all the months of the year. Every course *consisted* of twenty-four thousand. Over the first course for the first month was Jashobeam the son of Zabdiel : and in his course were twenty-four thousand. *He was* of the children of Perez, the chief of all the captains of the host for the first month. And over the course of the second month was Dodai an Ahohite : and of his course was Mikloth also the *next* ruler : in his course likewise were twenty-four thousand. The third captain of the host for the third month was Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, a chief priest: and in his course were twenty-four thousand. This is that Beniah who was mighty among the thirty, and above the thirty: and in his course was Ammizabad his son. The fourth captain for the fourth month was Asahel the brother of Joab, and Zebadiah his son after him : and in his course were twenty-four thousand. The fifth captain for the fifth month was Shammuth the Izrahite : and in his course were twenty-four thousand. The sixth captain for the sixth month was Ira the son of Ikkeesh the Tekoite: and in his course were twenty-four thousand. The seventh captain for the seventh month was Helez the Pelonite, of the children of Ephraim: and in his course were twenty-four thousand. The eighth captain for the eighth month was Sibbecai the Hushathite, of the Zarhites: and in his course were twenty-four thousand. The ninth captain for the ninth month was Abiezer the Antothite, of the Benjamites : and in his course were twenty-four thousand. The tenth captain for the tenth month was Maherai the Netophathite, of the Zarhites : and in his course were twenty-four thousand. The eleventh captain for the eleventh month was Benaiah the Pirathonite, of the children of Ephraim: and in his course were twenty-four thousand. The twelfth captain for the twelfth month was Heldai the Netophathite, of Othniel: and in his course were twenty-four thousand.

And *these were* over the tribes of Israel. The prince of the Reubenites was Eliezer the son of Zichri : of the Simeonites, Shephatiah the son of Maachah: of the Levites, Hashabiah the son of Kemuel: of the Aaronites, Zadok : of Judah, Elihu, one of the brethren of David : of Issachar,

19 Omri the son of Michael : of Zebulum, Ishmaiah the son of
20 Obadiah : of Naphtali, Jerimoth the son of Azriel : of the
children of Ephraim, Hoshea the son of Azariah : of the
21 half tribe of Manasseh, Joel the son of Pedaiah : of the
half tribe of Manasseh in Gilead, Iddo the son of Zechar-
22 iah : of Benjamin, Jaasiel the son of Abner : of Dan,
Azareel the son of Jeroham. These were the captains of
the tribes of Israel.

23 But David took not the numbers of them from twenty
years old and under : because Jehovah had said he would
24 increase Israel like to the stars of the heavens. Joab the
son of Zeruiah had begun to number, but he finished not,
because there came wrath for it upon Israel ; neither was
the number put into the computation in the Annals of King
David.

25 And over the king's treasures was Azmaveth the son of
Adiel : and over the storehouses in the fields, in the cities,
and in the villages, and in the castles, was Jehonathan the
26 son of Uzziah : and over them that did the work of the field
27 for tillage of the ground was Ezri the son of Chelub : and
over the vineyards was Shimei the Ramathite : and over the
28 wine stores in the vineyards was Zabdi the Shiphmite : and
over the olive trees and the sycomore trees in the plains was
Baal-hanan the Gederite : and over the stores of oil was
29 Joash : and over the oxen that fed in Sharon was Shitrai the
Sharonite : and over the oxen in the valleys was Shaphat the
31 son of Adlai : and over the camels was Obil the Ishmaelite :
and over the asses was Jehdeiah the Meronothite : and over
the flocks was Jaziz the Hagerite. All these were the
stewards over the property belonging to king David.

32 Also Jonathan David's uncle was a counsellor, a wise
man ; and he was the secretary ; and Jehiel the son of
33 Hachmoni was with the king's sons : and Ahithophel was
the king's counsellor : and Hushai the Archite was the
34 king's companion : and after Ahithophel was Jehoiada the
son of Benaiah, and Abiathar : and the captain of the king's
host was Joab.

1 CHAP. XXVIII.—And David assembled all the captains
of Israel, the captains of the tribes, and the captains of the
companies that ministered to the king by course, and the
captains over the thousands, and captains over the hundreds,
and the stewards over all the property and possession of the

king, and of his sons, with the officers, and with the mighty men, and with all the valiant men, unto Jerusalem. And ² David the king stood up upon his feet, and said, "Hear me, my brethren, and my people: as for me, I had in my heart to build a house of rest for the ark of the covenant of Jehovah, and for the footstool of our God; and I had made preparation for the building: but God said unto me, 'Thou ³ shalt not build a house for my name, because thou hast been a man of war, and hast shed blood.' Howbeit Jehovah ⁴ the God of Israel chose me before all the house of my father, to be king over Israel for ever: for he hath chosen Judah to be the chief; and of the house of Judah, the house of my father; and among the sons of my father he hath preferred me, to make me king over all Israel: and of ⁵ all my sons, (for Jehovah hath given me many sons,) he hath chosen my son Solomon to sit upon the throne of the kingdom of Jehovah over Israel. And he said unto me, 'Solo- ⁶ mon thy son, he shall build my house and my courts: for I have chosen him to be my son, and I will be his father. And I will establish his kingdom for ever, if he will continu- ⁷ to do my commandments and my judgments, as at this day.' Now therefore, in the sight of all Israel the congregation of ⁸ Jehovah, and in the audience of our God *I charge you*, keep and seek after all the commandments of Jehovah your God: that ye may possess this good land, and leave it for an inheritance for your children after you for ever. And thou, ⁹ Solomon my son, know thou the God of thy father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind: for Jehovah searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts: if thou seek him he will be found by thee; but if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off for ever. Take heed now; for Jehovah hath chosen thee to, ¹⁰ build a house for the sanctuary: persevere, and do it."

And David gave unto Solomon his son the plan of the ¹¹ porch, and of the houses thereof, and of the store-rooms thereof, and of the upper chambers thereof, and of the inner rooms thereof, and of the place of the mercy seat, and the ¹² plan of all that he had in his own mind, concerning the courts of the house of Jehovah, and all the chambers round about, the treasuries of the house of God, and the treasuries of the dedicated things: and the courses of the priests and ¹³ the Levites, and all the work of the service of the house of Jehovah, and all the implements for the service of the house

14 of Jehovah. *He gave of gold by weight, for things of gold, for all instruments of all manner of service; and for all implements of silver he gave silver by weight, for all implements of every kind of service:* even the weight for the lamp-stands, and for their lamps of gold, by weight for every lamp-stand, and for the lamps thereof: and for the lamp-stands of silver by weight, for the lamp-stand, and for the lamps thereof, according to the use of every lamp-stand.
15 16 And *he gave* gold by weight for the tables of shewbread,
17 for every table: and silver for the tables of silver: also pure gold for the flesh-hooks, and the bowls, and the cups: and for the golden basons *he gave gold* by weight for every basin; and for the basons of silver, by weight for every
18 basin: and for the altar of incense, refined gold by weight; and gold for the image of the chariot, *namely* the cherubs, which spread out *their wings*, and covered the ark of the
19 covenant of Jehovah. “All this,” said David, “hath been explained to me in writing by the hand of Jehovah, even
20 all the works of this plan.” And David said to Solomon his son, “Persevere and be of good courage, and do it: fear not, nor be dismayed: for the Lord Jehovah, my God, will be with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee, until thou hast finished all the work for the service of
21 the house of Jehovah. And, behold, *thou hast* the courses of the priests and the Levites, for all the service of the house of God: and *there shall be* with thee for all manner of workmanship every willing skilful man, for any manner of service: and the captains and all the people will be wholly at thy commandment.”

1 CHAP. XXIX.—And David the king said unto all the congregation, “Solomon my son, whom God hath chosen, is young and tender, and the work is great: for the palace is
2 not for man, but for the Lord Jehovah. And I have prepared with all my might for the house of my God, the gold for *things* of gold, and the silver for *things* of silver, and the brass for *things* of brass; the iron for *things* of iron, and wood for *things* of wood; onyx stones, and *stones* to be set, ornamental stones, and of divers colours, and all manner of
3 precious stones, and marble stones in abundance. And, because I have set my affection on the house of my God, and because I have wealth of my own, I have given gold and silver to the house of my God, over and above all that I

have prepared for the holy house; even three thousand talents of gold, of the gold of Ophir, and seven thousand talents of refined silver, to overlay the walls of the houses withal: for all manner of golden things, and for all manner of silver things, and for all manner of work to be made by the hands of artificers. And who then is willing to give freely this day unto Jehovah?"

And the chief of the fathers and princes of the tribes of Israel, and the captains of thousands and of hundreds, with the directors of the king's work, offered willingly, and gave for the service of the house of God, of gold five thousand talents and ten thousand darics, and of silver ten thousand talents, and of brass eighteen thousand talents, and of iron one hundred thousand talents. And they with whom precious stones were found gave them to the treasure of the house of Jehovah, by the hand of Jehiel the Gershonite. Then the people rejoiced, for that they offered willingly, because with perfect heart they offered willingly to Jehovah: and David the king also rejoiced with great joy. Wherefore David blessed Jehovah before all the congregation: and David said, "Blessed be thou, O Jehovah God of Israel our father, for ever and ever. Thine, O Jehovah, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O Jehovah, and thou art exalted as head above all. Both riches and honour come of thee, and thou reignest over all; and in thy hand is power and might; and in thy hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all. Now therefore, O our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious name. But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to offer willingly after this sort? for all things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee. For we are strangers before thee, and sojourners, as were all our fathers: our days on the earth are as a shadow, and there is none abiding. O Jehovah our God, all this store that we have prepared to build unto thee a house for thy holy name, cometh of thy hand, and is all thine own. I know also, O my God, that thou triest the heart, and hast pleasure in uprightness. As for me, in the uprightness of my heart I have willingly offered all these things: and now have I seen with joy thy people, who are present here, to offer willingly unto thee. O Jehovah God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Israel, our fathers,

keep this for ever in the imagination of the thoughts of the
19 heart of thy people, and prepare their heart for thyself: and
give unto Solomon my son a perfect heart, to keep thy com-
mandments, thy testimonies, and thy statutes, and to do all
these things, and to build the palace, for which I have made
provision."

20 And David said to all the congregation, " Now bless Jehovah your God." And all the congregation blessed Jehovah the God of their fathers, and bowed down their heads, and
21 worshipped Jehovah, and the king. And they sacrificed sacrifices unto Jehovah, on the morrow after that day, even a thousand bullocks, a thousand rams, and a thousand lambs, with their drink-offerings, and sacrifices in abundance for all
22 Israel: and did eat and drink before Jehovah on that day with great gladness. And they made Solomon the son of David king the second time, and anointed *him* unto Jehovah
23 to be the chief governor, and Zadok to be priest. Then Solomon sat on the throne of Jehovah as king instead of David
24 his father, and prospered; and all Israel obeyed him. And all the captains, and the mighty men, and also all the sons of king David, submitted themselves unto Solomon the king.
25 And Jehovah magnified Solomon exceedingly in the sight of all Israel, and bestowed upon him such royal majesty as had not been *bestowed* on any king before him in Israel.

26 Thus David the son of Jesse reigned over all Israel. And the time that he reigned over Israel was forty years; seven years he reigned in Hebron, and thirty-three years he reigned
27 in Jerusalem. And he died in a good old age, full of days, of riches and of honour: and Solomon his son reigned in his stead.

28 Now the acts of David the king, first and last, behold, they are written in the Acts of Samuel the Seer, and in the Acts of Nathan the Prophet, and in the Acts of Gad the Seer, with all his reign, and his might, and the events which befel him and Israel, and all the kingdoms of the countries.

THE SECOND BOOK OF
THE CHRONICLES.

CHAP. I.—And Solomon the son of David was strengthened in his kingdom, and Jehovah his God was with him, and magnified him exceedingly.

And Solomon spake unto all Israel, to the captains of thousands and of hundreds, and to the judges, and to every governor in all Israel, the chief of the fathers. And Solomon, and all the congregation with him, went to the high place which was at Gibeon; for there was the tabernacle of the congregation of God, which Moses the servant of Jehovah had made in the wilderness. (But David had brought up the ark of God from Kirjath-jearim to *the place which* David had prepared for it: for he had pitched a tent for it at Jerusalem.) Moreover the brazen altar, which Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, had made, was there before the tabernacle of Jehovah: and Solomon and the congregation resorted unto it. And Solomon went up thither to the brazen altar before Jehovah, which was at the tabernacle of the congregation, and offered a thousand burnt-offerings upon it. In that night God appeared unto Solomon, and said unto him, “Ask what I shall give unto thee.” And Solomon said unto God, “Thou hast shewed great mercy unto David my father, and hast made me to reign in his stead. Now, O Lord Jehovah, let thy promise unto David my father be established: for thou hast made me king over a people *which is* like the dust of the earth in multitude. Give unto me now wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people: for who can judge this great people of thine?” And God said unto Solomon, “Because this was in thy heart, and thou hast not asked riches, wealth, or honour, nor the life of thine enemies, neither hast asked long life, but hast asked for thyself wisdom and knowledge, that thou mayest judge my people,

12 over whom I have made thee king ; wisdom and knowledge are granted unto thee : and I will give unto thee riches, and wealth, and honour, such as none of the kings that have been before thee have had, neither shall there any after thee have the like." Then Solomon came from the high place which was at Gibeon, to Jerusalem, from before the tabernacle of the congregation ; and reigned over Israel. And Solomon gathered together chariots and steeds : and he had a thousand and four hundred chariots, and twelve thousand steeds ; and they 15 were stationed in the chariot cities, and with the king in Jerusalem. And the king made silver and gold to be at Jerusalem like stones, and cedar trees he made to be like the sycomores that are in the plain for abundance. And Solomon's horses were brought out of Egypt, and a caravan of the king's 16 purchasers received the droves for a settled price. And they fetched up, and brought out of Egypt a chariot for six hundred *shekels* of silver, and a horse for a hundred and fifty : and at the same rate they brought with them *horses and chariots* for all the kings of the Hittites, and for the kings of Syria.

1 CHAP. II.—And Solomon determined to build a house
2 for the name of Jehovah, and a house for his kingdom. And Solomon enrolled seventy thousand men to bear burdens, and eighty thousand to hew in the mountain, and three thousand
3 and six hundred to oversee them. And Solomon sent to Huram the king of Tyre, saying, "As thou didst deal with David my father, and didst send unto him cedars to build him
4 a house to dwell in, even so deal with me. Behold, I build a house to the name of Jehovah my God, to dedicate it to him,
and to burn before him sweet incense, and for the continual shew-bread, and for the burnt-offerings morning and evening, on the sabbaths, and on the new moons, and on the solemn feasts of Jehovah our God. This is *an ordinance* for ever to
5 Israel. And the house which I build is great : for great is
6 our God above all gods. But who is able to build him a house, seeing the heaven, yea the heaven of heavens cannot contain him ? who am I then, that I should build him a house, though it be only to burn sacrifice before him ?
7 Send me now therefore, a man skilful to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass, and in iron, and in purple, and crimson, and blue, and who understandeth to execute carvings, along with the skilful men who are with me in Judah and in Jerusalem, whom David my father provided. Send unto me also

cedar timber, cypress timber, and sandal wood, out of Lebanon: for I know that thy servants are skilful in cutting timber in Lebanon; and, behold, my servants shall be with thy servants, even to prepare for me timber in abundance: 9 for the house which I am about to build shall be great and wonderful. And, behold, I will give to thy servants, the 10 hewers that cut timber, twenty thousand cors of threshed wheat, and twenty thousand cors of barley, and twenty thousand baths of wine, and twenty thousand baths of oil.”

Then Huram the king of Tyre answered in writing, which 11 he sent to Solomon, “Because Jehovah hath loved his people, he hath made thee king over them.” Huram said 12 moreover, “Blessed be Jehovah the God of Israel, who made heaven and earth, who hath given to David the king a wise son, endued with prudence and understanding, who might build a house for Jehovah, and a house for his kingdom. And now I have sent a skilful man, endued with understand- 13 ing, a servant of Huram my father’s, the son of a woman 14 who was of the daughters of Dan, but whose father was a man of Tyre, skilful to work in gold, and in silver, in brass, in iron, in stone, and in timber, in purple, in blue, and in fine linen, and in crimson; also to carve all sorts of carving, and to plan all manner of plans which shall be pro- posed to him, with thy skilful men, and with the skilful men of my lord David thy father. Now therefore the wheat, and 15 the barley, the oil, and the wine, which my lord hath spoken of, let him send unto his servants: and we will cut wood out 16 of Lebanon, as much as thou shalt need: and we will bring it to thee in rafts by sea to Joppa; and thou shalt carry it up to Jerusalem.”

And Solomon numbered all the strangers who were in the 17 land of Israel, after the numbering wherewith David his father had numbered them; and they were found to be a hundred and fifty-three thousand and six hundred. And he set seventy thousand of them to be bearers of burdens, 18 and eighty thousand to be hewers in the mountain, and three thousand and six hundred overseers to set the people to work.

CHAP. III.—And Solomon began to build the house of 1 Jehovah at Jerusalem in mount Moriah, where Jehovah had appeared unto David his father, in the place which David had prepared in the threshing-floor of Ornan the Jebusite.

- 2 And he began to build on the second day of the second month, in the fourth year of his reign.
3 And these are the *dimensions* of the foundation which Solomon laid for the building of the house of God. The length, by cubits after the ancient measure, was sixty cubits,
4 and the breadth twenty cubits. And the porch that was in the front of the house, was in length corresponding to the breadth of the house, twenty cubits, and in height a hundred and twenty: and he overlaid it within with pure gold.
5 And the larger house he overlaid with cypress timber; and overlaid it with fine gold, and set thereon palm trees and
6 chains. And he covered the house with exceedingly beautiful stone: and the gold was gold of Parvaim. And he overlaid the house, its beams, its sills, and walls, and doors, with gold; and he carved cherubs on the walls.
8 And he made the chamber of the holy of the holies; its length was corresponding to the breadth of the house, twenty cubits, and its breadth twenty cubits: and he overlaid it
9 with fine gold, *amounting* to six hundred talents. And the weight of the nails was fifty shekels of gold. And he overlaid the ascending steps with gold.
10 And he made in the chamber of the holy of the holies two
11 cherubs of image work, and overlaid them with gold. And the wings of the cherubs were twenty cubits long: one wing of the first cherub was five cubits, reaching to the wall of the house: and the other wing was five cubits, reaching to the wing
12 of the other cherub. And one wing of the other cherub was five cubits, reaching to the wall of the house: and the other wing was five cubits also, joining to the wing of the other cherub.
13 The wings of these cherubs spread themselves forth twenty cubits: and they stood on their feet, and their faces were inward. And he made the veil of blue, and purple, and crimson, and fine linen; and he wrought cherubs upon it.
15 And he made in front of the house two columns of thirty-five cubits high, and the capital which was on the top of each of
16 them was five cubits. And he made chains, as in the sanctuary, and put them on the heads of the pillars; and made a hundred pomegranates, and put them on the chains.
17 And he reared the columns in front of the temple, one on the right hand, and the other on the left; and called the name of that on the right hand Jachin, [HE WILL ESTABLISH:] and the name of that on the left Boaz, [ENERGY.]

CHAP. IV.—And he made an altar of brass : its length 1 was twenty cubits, and its breadth was ten cubits, and its height was ten cubits.

And he made the molten sea, ten cubits from brim to 2 brim, round all about, and it was five cubits in height ; and a line of thirty cubits encompassed it about. And under it 3 was the similitude of oxen, which encompassed it round about : ten in a cubit, compassing the sea round about : there were two rows of oxen, cast when it was cast. It 4 stood upon twelve oxen, three facing toward the north, and three facing toward the west, and three facing toward the south, and three facing toward the east : and the sea was set upon them, above ; and all their hinder parts were inward. And it was a handbreadth in thickness ; and its brim was 5 like the workmanship of the brim of a cup, with flowers of lilies. It received and held three thousand baths.

And he made ten lavers, and set five on the right hand, 6 and five on the left, to wash in them : such things as pertained to the burnt-offering they washed in them ; but the sea was for the priests to wash in.

And he made ten lamp-stands of gold according to their 7 pattern, and set them in the temple, five on the right hand, and five on the left. And he made ten tables, and placed 8 them in the temple, five on the right side, and five on the left. And he made a hundred basins of gold.

And he made the court of the priests, and the great court, 9 and gates for the court, and overlaid the gates of them with brass. And he set the sea on the right side of the east end, 10 toward the south.

And Huram made the pots, and the shovels, and the 11 basons.

And Huram finished the making of the work which he made for king Solomon for the house of God ; the two 12 columns, and the bowls, and the capitals on the top of the two columns, and the two net-works to cover the two bowls of the capitals which were on the top of the columns ; and 13 the four hundred pomegranates of the two net-works ; two rows of pomegranates, on each net-work to cover the two bowls of the capitals which were upon the columns. And 14 he made the laver-stands, and he made the lavers on the stands ; the one sea, and the twelve oxen underneath it ; 15 and the pots, and the shovels, and the fleshhooks, and all 16 their appurtenances, Huram made for king Solomon for the

17 house of Jehovah, of polished brass. The king cast them, in
the plain of Jordan, in the thick clay between Succoth and
18 Zeredathah. And Solomon made all these implements in
great abundance: for the weight of the brass could not be
ascertained.

19 And Solomon made all the *golden* implements that were in
the house of God; even the altar of gold, and the tables on
20 which was the shew-bread; and the lamp-stands with their
lamps, of pure gold, that they should duly burn before the
21 sanctuary; and the flowers, and the lamps, and the tongs,
22 of gold, *and* that perfect gold; and the snuffers, and the
basons, and the snuff-dishes, and the censers, of pure gold:
and the inner doors of the entry from the house to the holy
of the holies, and the doors of the house of the temple, were
of gold.

1 CHAP. V.—And all the work that Solomon made for the
house of Jehovah was finished: and Solomon brought the
things which David his father had dedicated; and the silver,
and the gold, and all the furniture, he put into the treasures
of the house of God.

2 Then Solomon gathered together the elders of Israel, and
all the heads of the tribes, the chief of the fathers of the
children of Israel, unto Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of
the covenant of Jehovah from the city of David, which is
3 Zion. And all the men of Israel gathered themselves to
gether unto the king at the Feast of *Tabernacles* which was
4 in the seventh month. And all the elders of Israel came;
5 and the Levites took up the ark. And they brought up the
ark, and the tabernacle of congregation, and all the imple
ments of the holy place, which were in the tabernacle; the
6 priests and the Levites brought them up. And king
Solomon, and all the assembly of Israel who were convened
unto him before the ark, sacrificed sheep and oxen, which
7 could not be counted nor numbered for multitude. And the
priests brought the ark of the covenant of Jehovah unto its
place, into the sanctuary of the house, into the holy of the
8 holies, beneath the wings of the cherubs: for the cherubs
spread forth *their* wings over the place of the ark, and the
9 cherubs covered the ark and its poles above. And they
drew out the poles, and the tops of the poles were seen *pro
jecting* from the ark, in front of the sanctuary; but they
were not seen from the outside of *the temple*. And it is there

unto this day. There was nothing in the ark but the two tables ¹⁰ which Moses put *there* in Horeb, when Jehovah made *a covenant* with the children of Israel, when they had come forth out of Egypt. And it came to pass, when the priests came ¹¹ forth from the holy place, (for all the priests that could be found were sanctified, *and* there was no regard to courses ¹² on *that day*: also the Levites who were the singers, all of them of Asaph, of Heman, of Jeduthun, with their sons and their brethren, stood at the east end of the altar, arrayed in fine linen, having cymbals and lutes and harps; and with them a hundred and twenty priests sounding with trumpets:) it came even to pass, when the trumpeters and ¹³ singers together made one sound to be heard in praising and thanking Jehovah; and when they lifted up *their* voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and when they praised Jehovah, saying,

“For he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever!”

that the house was filled with a cloud, *even* the house of Jehovah; and the priests could not stand to minister by ¹⁴ reason of the cloud: for the glory of Jehovah had filled God's house.

CHAP. VI.—Then Solomon said:—“Jehovah hath said ¹ that he would dwell in the thick darkness. Yet have I built ² a house for thy habitation, and a settled place for thee to abide in for ever.”

And the king turned his face, and blessed the whole ³ assembly of Israel: (and all the assembly of Israel were standing.) And he said, “Blessed be Jehovah the God of ⁴ Israel, who spake with his mouth to my father David, as with his hand he hath fulfilled, saying, ‘From the day that ⁵ I brought forth my people out of the land of Egypt, I chose no city out of all the tribes of Israel to build ⁶ in it a house, that my name might be there; neither chose I any man to be a ruler over my people Israel: but I have chosen Jerusalem, that my name might be there; and I have chosen David to be over my people Israel.’ And it was in the ⁷ heart of David my father to build a house unto the name of Jehovah the God of Israel. But Jehovah said unto David my father, ‘Forasmuch as it was in thy heart to build a house unto my name, thou hast done well that it was in thy heart: nevertheless thou shalt not build the house; but thy ⁹

son who shall come forth out of thy loins, he shall build the
10 house for my name.' And Jehovah hath performed his word
which he spake: for I have risen up in the room of David
my father, and I sit upon the throne of Israel, as Jehovah
spake; and I have built this house unto the name of
11 Jehovah the God of Israel. And I have set there the ark,
in which is the covenant of Jehovah, which he made with
the children of Israel."

12 And he stood up before the altar of Jehovah in the
presence of the whole assembly of Israel, and he spread
13 forth his hands: (for Solomon had made a brazen platform
and had placed it in the midst of the court: it was five
cubits long, and five cubits broad, and three cubits high;
and upon it he stood, and kneeled down upon his knees
before all the assembly of Israel, and spread forth his hands
14 toward heaven:) and he said, "O Jehovah God of Israel,
there is no God like thee in heaven, nor on earth; who
keepest covenant and mercy with thy servants, who walk
15 before thee with all their heart: who hast kept with thy
servant David my father, that which thou didst promise unto
him; yea, thou spakest with thy mouth, and with thy hand
16 thou hast fulfilled, as *if* is this day. And now, O Jehovah
God of Israel, keep with thy servant David my father, that
which thou didst promise unto him, saying, 'There shall not
fail thee a man in my sight to sit on the throne of Israel; if
only thy children will take heed to their way, walking in my
17 law, as thou hast walked before me':—yea now, O Jehovah
God of Israel, let thy word be verified, which thou didst
speak unto thy servant David.

18 "But will God indeed dwell with men upon the earth?
Behold, the heaven, yea the heaven of heavens, cannot contain
19 thee; how much less this house which I have built! Yet
turn thou unto the prayer of thy servant, and unto his sup-
plication, O Jehovah my God, and hearken unto the cry and
20 the prayer which thy servant prayeth before thee: that
thine eyes may be open towards this house day and night,
toward the place of which thou hast said that thou wouldest
put thy name there; that thou mayest hearken unto the
prayer which thy servant shall pray towards this place.
21 And hearken unto the supplications of thy servant, and of
thy people Israel, when they shall pray toward this place:
yea, hear thou from thy dwelling place, *even* from heaven;
and when thou hearest, forgive.

“If any man trespass against his neighbour, and an oath ²² be laid upon him to cause him to swear, and the oath come before thine altar in this house ; then hear thou from heaven, ²³ and do, and judge thy servants, requiting the wicked, *and* bringing the *evil of* his way upon his own head ; and justifying the righteous, *and* giving unto him according to his righteousness.

“And if thy people Israel be smitten down before the ²⁴ enemy, because they have sinned against thee ; and shall turn and confess thy name, and pray and make supplication before thee in this house ; then hear thou from the heavens, ²⁵ and forgive the sin of thy people Israel, and bring them again unto the land which thou gavest to them and to their fathers.

“When the heavens shall be shut up, and there shall be ²⁶ no rain, because they have sinned against thee ; and they shall pray toward this place, and confess thy name, turn *again* from their sin, when thou hast afflicted them ; then hear thou in ²⁷ heaven, and forgive the sin of thy servants, and thy people Israel, when thou hast taught them the good way, in which they ought to go ; and send rain upon thy land, which thou hast given unto thy people for an inheritance.

“When there shall be famine in the land, when there shall be pestilence, when there shall be blight, or mildew, locust, or caterpillar, when their enemies in the land shall besiege their gates, *when there shall be* any plague, *when there shall be* any sickness,—whatsoever prayer, whatsoever supplication ²⁹ shall be made by any man, or by all thy people Israel, who shall know, each one his own plague and his own grief, and shall spread forth his hands towards this house : then hear ³⁰ thou from heaven thy dwelling place, and forgive, and render unto every man according unto all his ways, whose heart thou knowest ; (for thou only knowest the hearts of the children of men :) that they may fear thee, walking in thy ways, all ³¹ the days of their life, in the land which thou gavest unto our fathers.

“And also concerning the stranger, who is not of thy ³² people Israel, but cometh from a far country, for thy great name’s sake, and thy mighty hand, and thy stretched out arm ; when they shall come and pray toward this house ; then hear thou from the heavens, even from thy dwelling ³³ place, and do according to all that the stranger shall implore of thee ; that all the nations of the earth may know thy

name, and that they may fear thee, as doth thy people Israel ; and that they may know that this house which I have built is called by thy name.

34 " When thy people shall go out to war against their enemies whithersoever thou shalt send them, and they shall pray unto thee toward this city which thou hast chosen, and the house which I have built unto thy name ; then hear thou from the heavens their prayer and their supplication, and maintain their cause.

35 " When they shall sin against thee, (for there is no man that sinneth not,) and thou shalt be angry with them, and shalt deliver them to their enemies, and they shall carry them away captives unto a land far or near ; if they lay it to heart in the land whither they have been carried away captive, and repent, and make supplication unto thee in the land of their captivity, saying, ' We have sinned, we have done perversely, we have committed iniquity,' and shall return unto thee with all their heart and with all their soul in the land of their captivity, whither they have carried them captives, and pray toward their own land, which thou gavest unto their fathers, and toward the city which thou hast chosen, and toward the house which I have built unto thy name : then hear thou from the heavens, even from thy dwelling place, their prayer and their supplications, and maintain their cause, and forgive thy people that wherein they have sinned against thee.

36 " Now, O my God, I beseech thee, let thine eyes be opened, and let thine ears be attentive unto the prayer *that is made* in this place. Now therefore arise, O Lord Jehovah, unto thy resting place, thou, and the ark of thy strength. Let thy priests, O Lord Jehovah, be clothed with salvation, and let thy saints rejoice in goodness. O Lord Jehovah, turn not away the face of thine anointed : remember the mercies of David thy servant."

1 CHAP. VII.—And when Solomon had made an end of praying, fire came down from heaven, and consumed the burnt-offering and the sacrifices ; and the glory of Jehovah filled the house. And the priests could not enter into the house of Jehovah, because the glory of Jehovah had filled Jehovah's house. And when all the children of Israel saw how the fire came down, and the glory of Jehovah upon the house, they bowed themselves with their faces to the ground upon

the pavement, and worshipped, and praised Jehovah, *saying,*

“For he is good ; for his mercy endureth for ever !”

Then the king and all the people offered sacrifices before ⁴ Jehovah. And king Solomon offered a sacrifice of twenty-⁵ two thousand oxen, and a hundred and twenty thousand sheep. Thus the king and all the people dedicated the house of God. And the priests stood *waiting* on their ⁶ offices : the Levites also with the instruments of the musick of Jehovah, which king David had made to praise Jehovah, because his mercy endureth for ever, when David praised *God* by their ministry ; and the priests sounded trumpets before them, and all Israel stood. Moreover Solomon consecrated ⁷ the middle of the court which was before the house of Jehovah : for he offered there the burnt-offerings, and the fat of the peace-offerings ; because the brazen altar which Solomon had made was not able to receive the burnt-offerings, and the meal-offering, and the fat.

And at that time Solomon kept the Feast of *Tabernacles* ⁸ seven days, and all Israel with him, a very great assemblage, from the entering in of Hamath, unto the river of Egypt. And on the eighth day they made a solemn assembly : for ⁹ they kept the dedication of the altar seven days, and the feast seven days. And on the twenty-third day of the ¹⁰ seventh month he sent the people away into their tents, joyful and glad of heart, for the goodness that Jehovah had showed unto David, and unto Solomon, and unto Israel his people. Thus Solomon finished the house of Jehovah, and ¹¹ the king’s house : and all that came into Solomon’s heart to make in the house of Jehovah, and in his own house, he successfully effected.

And Jehovah appeared to Solomon by night, and said unto ¹² him, “I have heard thy prayer, and have chosen this place to myself for a house of sacrifice. If I shut up heaven ¹³ that there be no rain, or if I command the locusts to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among my people ; if my ¹⁴ people, who are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their evil ways ; then will I hear from heaven, and forgive their sin, and heal their land. Now mine eyes shall be open, and mine ears at-¹⁵ tentive unto the prayer *that is made* in this place. For now ¹⁶ have I chosen and sanctified this house, that my name may be there for ever : and mine eyes and my heart shall be

17 there perpetually. And as for thee, if thou wilt walk before me, as David thy father walked, and do according to all that I have commanded thee, and observe my statutes and 18 my judgments, then will I establish the throne of thy kingdom, according as I have covenanted with David thy father, saying, ‘There shall not fail thee a man to be ruler in Is-19 rael.’ But if ye turn away, and forsake my statutes and my commandments, which I have set before you, and shall 20 go and serve other gods, and worship them, then I will pluck them up by the roots out of my land which I have given unto them ; and this house, which I have sanctified unto my name, I will cast out from before my face, and make it to be 21 a bye-word and a scoff among all nations. And this house, which is so high, shall be an astonishment to every one that passeth by it ; so that he shall say, ‘Why hath Jehovah done 22 thus unto this land, and unto this house ?’ And it shall be answered, ‘Because they forsook Jehovah the God of their fathers, who brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, and clave unto other gods, and worshipped them, and served them : therefore hath he brought all this evil upon them.’”

1 CHAP. VIII.—And it came to pass at the end of twenty years, when Solomon had built the house of Jehovah, and 2 his own house, that Solomon rebuilt the cities which Huram had given to Solomon ; and he caused the children of Israel to 3 dwell there. And Solomon went to Hamath-zobah, and pre-4 vailed against it. And he built Tadmor in the wilderness, and 5 all the magazine-cities, which he built in Hamath. Also he built the upper Beth-horon, and the lower Beth-horon, forti-6 fied cities, with walls, gates, and bars ; and Baalath, and all the magazine-cities that Solomon had, and all the cities for the chariots, and the cities for the steeds, and all that Solomon desired to build in Jerusalem, and in Lebanon, and throughout all the land of his dominion.

7 As for all the people that were left of the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the 8 Jebusites, (who were not of Israel, but the children of them who were left after them in the land, whom the children of Israel consumed not,) upon them Solomon imposed a tribute 9 of bond-service, as it is until this day. But of the children of Israel Solomon did not make servants for his work ; but they were warriors, and chief of his captains, and captains 10 of his chariots and horsemen. And these were the chief of

king Solomon's officers, even two hundred and fifty, who directed the people.

And Solomón brought up the daughter of Pharaoh out of ¹¹ the city of David, unto the house which he had built for her: for he said, " My wife shall not dwell in the house of David king of Israel, because *those places are* holy, whereunto the ark of Jehovah hath come."

Then Solomon offered burnt-offerings unto Jehovah on the ¹² altar of Jehovah, which he had built before the porch; even ¹³ after the appointed rate every day; offering according to the commandment of Moses, on the sabbaths, and on the new moons, and on the solemn feasts three times in the year, even in the Feast of Unleavened Bread, and in the Feast of Weeks, and in the Feast of Tabernacles. And he appointed, according-¹⁴ to the order of David his father, the courses of the priests for their service, and of the Levites for their charges, to praise and minister before the priests, as the duty of every day required: the porters also by their courses at every gate: for so had David the man of God commanded. And they ¹⁵ departed not from the commandment of the king *given* unto the priests and Levites concerning any matter, or concerning the treasures. Now all the work of Solomon was prepared ¹⁶ against the day of laying the foundation of the house of Jehovah, and against the time when he finished the house of Jehovah completely.

Then Solomon went to Ezion-geber, and to Elloth, at the ¹⁷ sea-side in the land of Edom. And Huram sent unto him ¹⁸ by means of his servants, ships, and servants acquainted with the sea; and they went with the servants of Solomon to Ophir, and took thence four hundred and fifty talents of gold, and brought them to king Solomon.

CHAP. IX.—And when the queen of Sheba heard of the ¹ fame of Solomon, she came to prove Solomon with hard ques-²tions at Jerusalem, with a very great company, and camels bearing spices, and gold in abundance, and precious stones: and she came to Solomon, and spake with him of all that was in her heart. And Solomon told unto her all her questions: and there was nothing hidden from Solomon that he told not unto her. And when the queen of Sheba saw the wisdom of ³ Solomon, and the house which he had built, and the provi-⁴sion for his table, and the assemblage of his servants, and the array of his attendants, and their apparel; and his cup-

bearers, and their apparel, and his ascent by which he went up into the house of Jehovah, she was amazed beyond measure. And she said unto the king, "It was a true report which I heard in mine own land concerning thine acts, and concerning thy wisdom: and I believed not their words, until I came; but mine eyes have seen: and, behold, the half of the greatness of thy wisdom was not told me: *for* thou exceedest the fame that I heard. Happy are thy men, and happy are these thy servants, who stand before thee continually, and hear thy wisdom. Blessed be Jehovah thy God, who hath taken delight in thee, setting thee on his throne, to be king for Jehovah thy God: it is because thy God loveth Israel, to establish him for ever, that he hath made thee king over them, to do judgment and justice." And she gave unto the king a hundred and twenty talents of gold, and spices in great abundance, and precious stones: neither was there ever in Jerusalem such spice as the queen of Sheba gave unto king Solomon. And the servants also of Huram, and the servants of Solomon, who brought gold from Ophir, brought sandal-wood and precious stones. And the king made of the sandal-wood, stair-cases for the house of Jehovah, and for the king's house, and harps and lutes for the singers: and there were none such seen before in the land of Judah. And king Solomon gave unto the queen of Sheba all her desire, whatsoever she asked, beside *the value of* that which she had brought unto the king. And she turned, and went away to her own land, she and her servants.

And the weight of the gold which came to Solomon in one year was six hundred and sixty-six talents of gold; beside that which traders and merchants brought. And all the allied kings and the prefects of the land brought gold and silver to Solomon.

And king Solomon made two hundred shields of beaten gold; six hundred shekels of beaten gold went to each shield: and three hundred bucklers of beaten gold; three hundred shekels of gold went to each buckler. And the king placed them in the house of the Forest of Lebanon. And the king made a great throne of ivory, and overlaid it with pure gold. And there were six steps to the throne, with a footstool of gold, which were fastened to the throne, and supports for the arms on each side of the place for the seat, and two lions standing beside the supports. And there were twelve lions standing there, on the six steps, one on each side of *each step*. There was not a *throne* made like it in any kingdom.

And all the drinking vessels of king Solomon were of gold, 20 and all the furniture of the house of the Forest of Lebanon was of pure gold : none were of silver ; that was counted as nothing in the days of Solomon. For the king's ships went 21 to Tarshish with the servants of Huram : once in three years the ships of Tarshish came, bringing gold and silver, *and* ivory, and apes, and peacocks.

And king Solomon excelled all the kings of the earth in 22 wealth and in wisdom. And all the kings of the earth 23 resorted unto Solomon, to hear his wisdom which God had put into his heart. And they brought each man his present, 24 vessels of silver, and vessels of gold, and raiment, armour, and spices, draught-horses, and mules, *of each* a yearly offering. And Solomon had four thousand pairs of horses 25 and chariots, and twelve thousand steeds ; and they were stationed in the chariot-cities, and with the king in Jerusalem.

And he reigned over all the kings, from the river *Euphrates* 26 even unto the land of the Philistines, and to the border of Egypt. And the king made silver to be in Jerusalem like 27 stones, and cedar trees he made to be like the sycamores which grow in the plains in abundance. And they brought 28 unto Solomon horses out of Egypt, and out of all lands.

And the rest of the acts of Solomon, first and last, are 29 they not written in the book of Nathan the Prophet, and in the prophecy of Ahijah the Shilonite, and in the visions of Iddo the Seer, against Jeroboam the son of Nebat ?

And Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel forty 30 years.

And Solomon slept with his fathers, and he was buried in 31 the city of David his father : and Rehoboam his son reigned in his stead.

CHAP. X.—And Rehoboam went to Shechem : for unto 1 Shechem were all Israel come to make him king. And it 2 came to pass, when Jeroboam the son of Nebat heard it, (for he was *yet* in Egypt, whither he had fled from the presence of king Solomon,) that Jeroboam returned out of Egypt. And 3 they sent and called him. So Jeroboam and all Israel came and spake unto Rehoboam, saying, “Thy father made our 4 yoke grievous : now therefore do thou lighten the grievous service of thy father, and his heavy yoke which he put upon us, and we will serve thee.” And he said unto them, “Return 5 unto me after three days.” And the people departed. And 6

king Rehoboam consulted the aged men who had stood before Solomon his father, while he was alive, saying, "How do ye advise that I shall answer this people?" And they spake unto him, saying, "If thou be kind unto this people and please them, and speak good words unto them, then will they be thy servants for ever." But he forsook the counsel of the aged men which they had given him, and consulted the young men who had grown up with himself, and who stood before him. And he said unto them, "What do ye advise that we shall answer unto this people, who have spoken unto me saying, 'Lighten the yoke that thy father put upon us?'" And the young men who had grown up with him spake unto him, saying, "Thus shalt thou say unto the people who spake unto thee, saying, 'Thy father made our yoke heavy, but do thou lighten it upon us ;' thus shalt thou say unto them, 'My little finger is thicker than my father's loins. And now, my father laid upon you a heavy yoke, but I will add to your yoke : my father chastised you with whips, but I *will chastise you with scorpions.*'" And Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam, on the third day, according as the king had spoken, saying, "Return unto me on the third day." And the king answered them harshly ; and king Rehoboam forsook the counsel of the aged men, and he spake unto them after the counsel of the young men, saying, "My father made your yoke heavy, but I will add thereto : my father chastised you with whips, but I *will chastise you with scorpions.*" So the king did not hearken unto the people : but the cause was from God, that Jehovah might establish his word, which he had spoken by Ahijah the Shilonite, unto Jeroboam the son of Nebat. And all Israel saw that the king had not hearkened unto them ; and the people answered the king, saying, "What portion have we in David ? yea, we have no inheritance in the son of Jesse. Every man to your tents, O Israel ! Now, see to thine own house, O David !" So all Israel departed to their tents. But as for the children of Israel who dwelt in the cities of Judah, Rehoboam reigned over them. And king Rehoboam sent Hadoram who was over the labour-conscription ; and the children of Israel stoned him with stones so that he died. And king Rehoboam made haste to mount his chariot, to flee to Jerusalem. And Israel revolted from the house of David, *as it is unto this day.*

CHAP. XI.—And Rehoboam came to Jerusalem, and he

assembled the house of Judah and Benjamin, a hundred and eighty thousand chosen warriors, to fight against Israel, *and* to recover the kingdom again unto Rehoboam. But the word 2 of Jehovah came to Shemaiah a man of God, saying, " Speak 3 unto Rehoboam the son of Solomon, king of Judah, and unto all Israel in Judah and Benjamin, saying, ' Thus saith Jehovah, 4 Ye shall not go up, nor fight against your brethren: return every man to his house; for this thing is from me.' " And they obeyed the words of Jehovah, and returned from going against Jeroboam.

And Rehoboam dwelt in Jerusalem, and built cities for 5 defence in Judah. And he built Beth-lehem, and Etam, and 6 Tekoa, and Beth-zur, and Soco, and Adullam, and Gath, and 8 Mareshah, and Ziph, and Adoraim, and Lachish, and Azekah, 9 and Zorah, and Aijalon, and Hebron, which are in Judah and 10 in Benjamin; fortified cities. And he strengthened the fort- 11 resses, and put captains in them, and store of provisions, and of oil and wine. And in each city he put shields and spears, 12 and made them exceeding strong. And Judah and Benjamin adhered to him.

And the priests and the Levites that were in all Israel, re- 13 sorted unto him out of all their territories. For the Levites 14 left their pasture-lands and their possessions, and came to Judah and Jerusalem: for Jeroboam and his sons had cast them off from being priests unto Jehovah: and had ordained unto him- 15 self priests for the high places, and for the goats, and for the calves which he had made. And after them, out of all the 16 tribes of Israel, such as set their hearts to seek Jehovah the God of Israel came to Jerusalem, to sacrifice unto Jehovah the God of their fathers. And they strengthened the king- 17 dom of Judah, and made Rehoboam the son of Solomon strong, three years: for three years they walked in the way of David and Solomon.

And Rehoboam took unto him to wife, Mahalath the 18 daughter of Jerimoth the son of David, *and* Abihail the daughter of Eliab the son of Jesse; and she bare unto him 19 sons, Jeush, and Shemariah, and Zaham. And after her he 20 took Maachah the daughter of Absalom; and she bare unto him Abijah, and Attai, and Ziza, and Shelomith. And Reho- 21 boam loved Maachah the daughter of Absalom above all his wives and his concubines: (for he took eighteen wives, and sixty concubines; and begat twenty-eight sons, and sixty daugh- 22 ters.) And Rehoboam made Abijah the son of Maachah to

be the chief, *and* ruler among his brethren : for *he purposed* 23 to make him king. And he dealt prudently, and dispersed *certain* of all his children throughout all the countries of Judah and Benjamin, unto all the fortified cities : and he gave them provisions in abundance. And he desired many wives.

1 CHAP. XII.—And it came to pass, when Rehoboam had established the kingdom, and had strengthened himself, that he forsook the law of Jehovah, and all Israel with him. 2 And it came to pass in the fifth year of king Rehoboam, that Shishak king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem, 3 because they had transgressed against Jehovah, with twelve hundred chariots, and sixty thousand horsemen : and the people were without number that came with him out of 4 Egypt ; Libyans, Sukkites, and Ethiopians. And he took the fortified cities which belonged to Judah, and came to 5 Jerusalem. And Shemaiah the prophet came to Rehoboam, and to the princes of Judah, who were gathered together to Jerusalem because of Shishak, and said unto them, “Thus saith Jehovah, ‘Ye have forsaken me ; therefore have I also 6 left you in the hand of Shishak.’” And the princes of Israel and the king humbled themselves ; and said, “Jeho- 7 vah is righteous.” And when Jehovah saw that they humbled themselves, the word of Jehovah came to She- maiah, saying, “They have humbled themselves ; *therefore* I will not destroy them, but I will grant them some de- liverance ; and my wrath shall not be poured out upon 8 Jerusalem by the hand of Shishak. Nevertheless they shall be his servants ; that they may know my service, and the 9 service of the kingdoms of *other* lands.” So Shishak king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem, and took away the treasures of the house of Jehovah, and the treasures of the king’s house ; he took all ; he carried away also the shields 10 of gold which Solomon had made. And king Rehoboam made instead of them shields of brass, and committed them to the captains of the guards, who kept the door of the 11 king’s house. And it came to pass that whenever the king went into the house of Jehovah, the guards came and fetched them ; and they brought them back into the guard- 12 room. And when he humbled himself, the wrath of Jehovah turned away from him, and he destroyed him not utterly : 13 and also in Judah things went well. And king Reho-

boam strengthened himself in Jerusalem, and reigned: for Rehoboam was forty-one years old when he began to reign, and he reigned seventeen years in Jerusalem, the city which Jehovah had chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, to put his name there. And his mother's name was Naamah the Ammonitess. And he did evil, because he prepared not his heart to seek Jehovah.

Now the acts of Rehoboam, first and last, are they not written in the book of Shemaiah the Prophet, and of Iddo the Seer, concerning genealogies? And there were wars between Rehoboam and Jeroboam continually.

And Rehoboam slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David: and Abijah his son reigned in his stead.

CHAP. XIII.—In the eighteenth year of king Jeroboam 1 Abijah began to reign over Judah. He reigned three years 2 in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Michaiah the daughter of Uriel of Gibeah.

And there was war between Abijah and Jeroboam. And 3 Abijah began the war with an army of valiant warriors, even four hundred thousand chosen men: and Jeroboam set the battle in array against him with eight hundred thousand chosen men, mighty men of valour.

And Abijah stood up upon Mount Zemaraim, which is in 4 mount Ephraim, and said, "Hear me, thou Jeroboam, and all Israel; ought ye not to know that Jehovah the God of 5 Israel gave the kingdom over Israel to David for ever, even to him and to his sons, by a covenant of salt? Yet Jero- 6 boam the son of Nebat, a servant of Solomon the son of David, is risen up, and hath rebelled against his lord. And 7 there were gathered unto him vain men, and vile, and they strengthened themselves against Rehoboam the son of Solomon, when Rehoboam was young and weak-minded, and could not withstand them. And now ye think to with- 8 stand the kingdom of Jehovah in the hand of the sons of David; and ye are a great multitude, and there are with you the golden calves, which Jeroboam made unto you for gods. Have ye not cast out the priests of Jehovah, the sons of 9 Aaron, and the Levites, and have made unto you priests after the manner of the nations of other lands? whosoever cometh to consecrate himself with a young bullock and seven rams, he may become a priest of *them that are* no gods. But as for us, 10 Jehovah is our God, and we have not forsaken him; and the

priests who minister unto Jehovah are the sons of Aaron, and
11 the Levites *wait* upon the service. And they burn unto Jehovah, every morning and every evening, burnt-sacrifices and sweet incense : the shew-bread also *they set in order* upon the pure table ; and the lamp-stand of gold with the lamps thereof, to burn every evening : for we keep the charge of Jehovah,
12 our God ; but ye have forsaken him. And, behold, God himself is with us for *our* captain, and his priests with sounding trumpets to cry alarm against you. O children of Israel, fight ye not against Jehovah the God of your fathers ? so that ye shall not prosper ? ” But Jeroboam caused an ambuscade to come about behind them : so they were before Judah, and
14 the ambuscade was behind them. And when Judah looked back, behold, the battle was before and behind : and they cried unto Jehovah, and the priests sounded with the trumpets.
15 Then the men of Judah gave a shout : and as the men of Judah shouted, it came to pass that God smote Jeroboam and
16 all Israel before Abijah and Judah. And the children of Israel
17 fled before Judah, and God delivered them into their hand. And Abijah and his people slew them with a great slaughter : so there fell down slain of Israel five hundred thousand, chosen
18 men. Thus the children of Israel were brought under at that time, and the children of Judah prevailed, because they relied
19 upon Jehovah the God of their fathers. And Abijah pursued after Jeroboam, and took cities from him, Bethel with its villages, and Jeshanah with its villages, and Ephraim with its
20 villages. Neither did Jeroboam recover strength again in the days of Abijah : and Jehovah struck him, and he died.
21 But Abijah waxed mighty, and he married fourteen wives and begat twenty-two sons, and sixteen daughters. And the rest of the acts of Abijah, and his ways, and his sayings, are written in the history of the prophet Iddo.

1 CHAP. XIV.—And Abijah slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the city of David : and Asa his son reigned in his stead. In his days the land was quiet ten
2 years. And Asa did that which was good and right in the
3 eyes of Jehovah his God : for he took away the altars of the strange *gods*, and the high places, and brake down the images,
4 and cut down the standing pillars : and commanded Judah to seek Jehovah the God of their fathers, and to do the law
5 and the commandment. And he took away out of all the cities of Judah all the high places and the images : and the

kingdom was quiet before him. And he built fortified cities ⁶ in Judah : for the land had rest, and he had no war in those years ; because Jehovah had given him rest. Therefore he ⁷ said unto Judah, “ Let us build these cities, and make about them walls, and towers, gates, and bars ; the land is yet before us, because we have sought Jehovah our God ; we have sought him, and he hath given us rest on every side.” So they built and prospered. And Asa had an army that bare buckler and ⁸ spear, out of Judah three hundred thousand ; and out of Benjamin, that bare shield and drew bow, two hundred and fourscore thousand : all these were mighty men of valour. And there came out against them Zerah the Ethiopian with ⁹ a host of a million, and three hundred chariots ; and he came unto Mareshah. And Asa went out against him, and they set ¹⁰ the battle in array in the valley of Zephathah at Mareshah. And Asa cried unto Jehovah his God, and said, “ O Jehovah ! ¹¹ it is nothing with thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power : help us, O Jehovah our God ; for we rest on thee, and in thy name have we come against this multitude. O Jehovah, thou art our God ; let no man prevail against thee.” So Jehovah smote the Ethiopians before Asa ¹² and before Judah ; and the Ethiopians fled. And Asa and ¹³ the people that were with him pursued them unto Gerar : and the Ethiopians were overthrown, so that they could not recover themselves ; for they were destroyed before Jehovah and before his host ; and they carried away very much spoil. And they smote all the cities round about Gerar ; for the fear ¹⁴ of Jehovah came upon them : and they spoiled all the cities ; for there was much spoil in them. They smote also the pen- ¹⁵ folds of cattle, and carried away sheep and camels in abundance, and returned to Jerusalem.

CHAP. XV.—And the Spirit of God came upon Aza-¹
riah [the son of Oded : and he went out to meet Asa, and ²
said unto him, “ Hear ye me, Asa, and all Judah and Ben-
jamin ; Jehovah is with you, while ye are with him ; and if
ye seek him, he will be found by you ; but if ye forsake him,
he will forsake you. Now for a long season Israel hath ³
been without the true God, and without a teaching priest,
and without law. But when they in their trouble turned ⁴
unto Jehovah the God of Israel, and sought him, he was
found by them. And in those times there was no peace to ⁵
him that went out, nor to him that came in, but great vexa-

tions were upon all the inhabitants of the countries. And nation was destroyed by nation, and city by city : for God did vex them with all adversity. Be ye strong therefore, and let not your hands be weak : for your work shall be rewarded." And when Asa heard these words, and the prophecy of Azariah the son of Oded the prophet, he took courage, and put away the abominable idols out of all the land of Judah and Benjamin, and out of the cities which he had taken from mount Ephraim, and renewed the altar of Jehovah, which was before the porch of Jehovah. And he gathered all Judah and Benjamin, and the strangers with them out of Ephraim and Manasseh, and out of Simeon : for men revolted to him out of Israel in abundance, when they saw that Jehovah his God was with him. So they gathered themselves together at Jerusalem, in the third month in the fifteenth year of the reign of Asa. And they offered unto Jehovah at that time, of the spoil which they had brought, seven hundred oxen and seven thousand sheep. And they entered into a covenant to seek Jehovah the God of their fathers with all their heart and with all their soul ; that whosoever would not seek Jehovah the God of Israel should be put to death, whether small or great, whether man or woman. And they sware unto Jehovah with a loud voice, and with shouting, and with trumpets, and with cornets. And all Judah rejoiced at the oath : for they had sworn with all their heart, and sought him with their whole desire ; and he was found by them : and Jehovah gave them rest round about. And also Maachah the mother of Asa the king, he deposed from being queen, because she had made an idol of Ashera : and Asa cut down her idol, and stamped it, and burnt it in the vale of Kidron. But the high places were not taken away out of Israel : nevertheless the heart of Asa was devoted to Jehovah all his days. And he brought into the house of God the things which his father had dedicated, and which he himself had dedicated, silver, and gold, and vessels. And there was no more war until the thirty-fifth year of the reign of Asa.

1 CHAP. XVI.—In the thirty-sixth year of the reign of Asa, Baasha king of Israel came up against Judah, and built Ramah, that he might hinder any from going or coming to Asa king of Judah. Then Asa brought out silver and gold out of the treasures of the house of Jehovah and out of the king's house, and sent to Ben-hadad king of Syria, how

dwell at Damascus, saying, “Let there be a league between me and thee, as there was between my father and thy father. Behold, I have sent unto thee silver and gold; come, break thy league with Baasha king of Israel, that he may depart from me.” And Ben-hadad hearkened unto king Asa; and he sent the captains of the hosts which he had, against the cities of Israel; and they smote Ijon, and Dan, and Abel-maim, and all the magazine-cities of Naphtali. And it came to pass, when Baasha heard it, that he ceased from building Ramah, and left off his work. Then Asa the king took all Judah, and they carried away the stones of Ramah, and its timber, with which Baasha had been building; and he built therewith Geba and Mispah.

And at that time Hanani the seer came to Asa king of Judah, and said unto him, “Because thou hast relied on the king of Syria, and hast not relied on Jehovah thy God, therefore is the host of the king of Syria escaped out of thine hand. Were not the Ethiopians and the Libyans a huge host, with very many chariots and horsemen? yet, because thou didst rely on Jehovah, he delivered them into thy hand. For the eyes of Jehovah run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is devoted to him. Herein thou hast done foolishly: therefore from henceforth thou shalt have war.” Then Asa was wroth with the seer, and put him into a prison-house; for he was in a rage with him because of this thing. And Asa oppressed some of the people at that time.

And behold, the acts of Asa, first and last, behold, they are written in the book of the Kings of Judah and Israel. And Asa in the thirty-ninth year of his reign was diseased in his feet, until his disease was exceeding great: yet in his disease he had not recourse to Jehovah, but to the physicians.

And Asa slept with his fathers, and died in the forty-first year of his reign. And they buried him in his own sepulchre, which he had made for himself in the city of David; and laid him in the bed which was filled with sweet odours and divers kinds of spices, compounded according to the art of the compounder; and they made a very great funeral fire for him.

CHAP. XVII.—And Jehoshaphat his son reigned in his stead, and strengthened himself against Israel. And he placed forces in all the fortified cities of Judah, and set garrisons in the land of Judah, and in the cities of Ephraim,

3 which Asa his father had taken. And Jehovah was with Jehoshaphat, because he walked in the first ways of his father
4 David, and had not recourse unto the images of Baal; but sought to the God of his father, and walked in his command-
5 ments, and not after the doings of Israel. Therefore Jehovah established the kingdom in his hand; and all Judah brought
6 to Jehoshaphat presents; and he had riches and honour in
7 abundance. And his heart was lifted up in the ways of Jehovah: moreover he took away the high places and stand-
7 ing pillars out of Judah. And in the third year of his reign
8 he sent his princes, even Ben-hail, and Obadiah, and Zechar-
iah, and Nethaneel, and Michmaiah, to teach in the cities of
8 Judah. And with them he sent Levites, even Shemaiah, and
Nethaniah, and Zebadiah, and Asahel, and Shemiramoth,
and Jehonathan, and Adonijah, and Tobijah, and Tob-adoni-
jah, Levites; and with them Elishama and Jehoram, priests.
9 And they taught in Judah, and had the book of the law of
Jehovah with them, and went about throughout all the cities
10 of Judah, and taught the people. And the fear of Jehovah
fell upon all the kingdoms of the lands which were round
about Judah, so that they made no war against Jehoshaphat.
11 Also some of the Philistines brought unto Jehoshaphat, pre-
sents, and tribute-silver; and the Arabians brought him
flocks, seven thousand and seven hundred rams, and seven
12 thousand and seven hundred he-goats. And Jehoshaphat
grew exceedingly; and he built in Judah castles, and maga-
13 zine-cities. And he had large stores in the cities of Judah:
and the men of war, mighty men of valour, were in Jerusa-
14 lem. And these are the numbers of them according to the
house of their fathers: Of Judah, the captains of thousands;
Adnah the chief; and with him, mighty men of valour, three
15 hundred thousand. And next to him was Jehohanan the
captain; and with him two hundred and eighty thousand.
16 And next to him was Amasiah the son of Zichri, who willingly
offered himself unto Jehovah; and with him two hundred thou-
17 sand, mighty men of valour. And of Benjamin, Eliada a
mighty man of valour; and with him, armed men with bow and
18 shield, two hundred thousand. And next him was Jehozabad;
and with him a hundred and eighty thousand, ready prepared
19 for the war. These waited on the king, beside those whom
the king put in the fortified cities throughout all Judah.

1 CHAP. XVIII.—Now Jehoshaphat had riches and honour
in abundance; and he connected himself by marriage with

Ahab. And after certain years he went down to Ahab ² to Samaria. And Ahab killed sheep and oxen for him in abundance, and for the people that were with him, and persuaded him to go up *with him* to Ramoth-gilead. And ³ Ahab king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat king of Judah, "Wilt thou go with me to Ramoth-gilead?" And he ⁴ answered him, "I am as thou art, and my people as thy people; and we will be with thee in the war." And Jehoshaphat said unto the king of Israel, "Enquire, I pray thee, this day, the word of Jehovah." Therefore the king of Israel ⁵ gathered together of prophets four hundred men, and said unto them, "Shall we go to Ramoth-gilead to battle, or shall I forbear?" And they said, "Go up; for God will deliver it into the hands of the king." And Jehoshaphat said, "Is ⁶ there not here a prophet of Jehovah besides, that we may enquire of him?" And the king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, ⁷ "There is yet one man, by whom we may enquire of Jehovah: but I hate him; for he never prophesieth good concerning me, but always evil: the same is Micaiah the son of of Imla." And Jehoshaphat said, "Let not the king say so." And the king of Israel called an officer, and said, "⁸ Hasten *s hither* Micaiah the son of Imla." And the king of Israel and ⁹ Jehoshaphat the king of Judah sat, each on his throne, arrayed in their robes; and they sat in the open space at the entrance of the gate of Samaria; and all the prophets prophesied before them. And Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah made for ¹⁰ himself horns of iron; and he said, "Thus saith Jehovah, 'With these shalt thou gore the Syrians, until thou hast destroyed them utterly.'" And all the prophets prophesied in ¹¹ like manner, saying, "Go up to Ramoth-gilead, and prosper: for Jehovah shall deliver it into the king's hand." And ¹² the messenger who went to call Micaiah spake unto him, saying, "Behold, the words of the prophets *declare* good to the king with one accord; let thy word then, I pray thee, be like *the word of* one of them, and speak that which is good." And Micaiah said, "As Jehovah liveth, whatsoever my God ¹³ saith, that will I speak." And he came to the king. And ¹⁴ the king said unto him, "Micaiah, shall we go to Ramoth-gilead to battle, or shall I forbear?" And he said, "Go ye up, and prosper, for they shall be delivered into your hand." ¹⁵ And the king said unto him, "How many times shall I adjure thee that thou tell me nothing but that which is true in the name of Jehovah?" And he said, "I saw all Israel scattered upon the mountains, as sheep that have no shepherd:

and Jehovah said, ‘These have no master: let them return
 17 every man to his house in peace.’” And the king of Israel
 said unto Jehoshaphat, “Did I not tell thee that he would not
 18 prophesy good concerning me, but evil?” And he said, “There-
 fore hear the word of Jehovah: I saw Jehovah sitting upon
 his throne, and all the host of heaven standing on his right
 19 hand and on his left. And Jehovah said, ‘Who will entice
 Ahab king of Israel, to go up that he may fall at Ramoth-
 gilead?’ And one spake saying after this manner, and
 20 another saying after that manner. Then there came out a
 spirit, and stood before Jehovah, and said, ‘I will entice
 21 him.’ And Jehovah said unto him, ‘How?’ And he said,
 ‘I will go forth, and I will be a lying spirit in the mouth of
 all his prophets.’ And he said, ‘Thou shalt entice *him*,
 22 and thou shalt also prevail: go forth, and do so.’ Now
 therefore, behold, Jehovah hath put a lying spirit in the
 mouth of these thy prophets, for Jehovah hath spoken evil
 23 against thee.” And Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah drew
 near, and smote Micaiah upon the cheek, and said, “Which
 way went the spirit of Jehovah from me to speak unto thee?”
 24 And Micaiah said, “Behold, thou shalt see in that day when
 25 thou shalt go into an inner chamber to hide thyself.” And
 the king of Israel said, “Take Micaiah, and carry him back
 to Amon the governor of the city, and to Joash the king’s
 26 son; and say, ‘Thus saith the king; Put this fellow in the
 prison, and feed him with bread of affliction and water
 27 of affliction, until I return in peace.’” And Micaiah said,
 “If thou return at all in peace, Jehovah hath not spoken
 by me.” And he said, “Hearken, O people, every one of
 you.”

28 So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah
 29 went up to Ramoth-gilead. And the king of Israel said unto
 Jehoshaphat, “I will disguise myself, and enter into the battle;
 but do thou wear thine own apparel.” And the king of Israel
 30 disguised himself; and they went to the battle. Now the
 king of Syria had commanded the captains of his chariots,
 saying, “Fight neither with small nor great, save only with
 31 the king of Israel.” And it came to pass, when the captains
 of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, that they said, “It is the
 king of Israel.” Therefore they compassed him round
 about, to fight: but Jehoshaphat cried out, and Jehovah helped
 32 him; and God moved them *to depart* from him. For it came to
 pass, that, when the captains of the chariots perceived that it

was not the king of Israel, they turned back from pursuing him. And a certain man drew a bow in fair fight, and smote the ^{xx} king of Israel between the joints of his armour : and he said unto his charioteer, “ Turn thy hand, and carry me out of the host ; for I am wounded.” And the battle was hot ^{xxi} that day : and the king of Israel stood upright in his chariot facing the Syrians till even-tide : and about the time of the sun going down he died.

CHAP. XIX.—And Jehoshaphat the king of Judah returned in peace to his house to Jerusalem. And Jehu the son ² of Hanani the seer went out to meet him, and said unto king Jehoshaphat, “ Oughtest thou to help the ungodly, and love them that hate Jehovah ? therefore is wrath upon thee from before Jehovah. Nevertheless there are good things found in ³ thee, in that thou hast taken away the images of Ashera out of the land, and hast prepared thy heart to seek God.” And Jehoshaphat dwelt at Jerusalem : and he went out again ⁴ through the people from Beer-sheba to mount Ephraim, and brought them back unto Jehovah the God of their fathers. And he set judges in the land throughout all the fortified ⁵ cities of Judah, city by city ; and he said unto the judges, ⁶ “ Take heed what ye do ; for ye judge not for man, but for Jehovah, who is with you in the judgment. Wherefore now ⁷ let the fear of Jehovah be upon you ; take heed and do it : for there is no iniquity with Jehovah our God, nor respect of persons, nor taking of gifts.” Moreover in Jerusalem Jeho- ⁸ shaphat set *certain* of the Levites, and of the priests, and of the chief of the fathers of Israel, for the judgment of Jehovah, and for the law-suits, of the inhabitants of Jerusalem. And ⁹ he charged them, saying, “ Thus shall ye do in the fear of Jehovah, faithfully, and with a perfect heart. And what cause ¹⁰ soever shall come to you of your brethren who dwell in their cities, between blood and blood, between law and command-
ment, statutes and judgments, ye shall even warn them that they trespass not against Jehovah, and so wrath come upon you, and upon your brethren : this do, and ye shall not trespass. And, behold, Amariah the chief priest is over you in ¹¹ all matters relating to Jehovah ; and Zebadiah the son of Ishmael, the ruler of the house of Judah, for all matters relating to the king ; and the Levites shall be officers before you. Deal courageously, and Jehovah shall be with the good.”

1 CHAP. XX.—And it came to pass after this, that the
children of Moab, and the children of Ammon, and with
them *certain men* of the Edomites, came against Jehoshaphat to
2 battle. Then there came some who told Jehoshaphat, saying,
“There cometh a great multitude against thee from beyond
the sea *and* from Edom; and, behold, they are in Hazazon-
3 tamar, which is En-gedi.” And Jehoshaphat feared, and set
himself to seek Jehovah, and proclaimed a fast throughout
4 all Judah. And Judah gathered themselves together, to ask
help of Jehovah: even out of all the cities of Judah they came
5 to seek Jehovah. And Jehoshaphat stood in the congregation
of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of Jehovah, before the
6 new court, and said, “O Jehovah God of our fathers, art not
thou God in heaven? and rulest not thou over all the king-
doms of the heathen? and in thy hand is there not power and
7 might, so that none is able to withstand thee? Art not thou
our God, who didst drive out the inhabitants of this land be-
fore thy people Israel, and gave it to the seed of Abraham thy
8 friend for ever? And they dwelt therein, and have built unto
9 thee a sanctuary therein for thy name, saying, ‘If, when evil
cometh upon us, as the sword, judgment, or pestilence, or
famine, we stand before this house and in thy presence, (for
thy name is in this house,) and cry unto thee in our affliction,
10 then thou wilt hear and help.’ And now, behold, the chil-
dren of Ammon and Moab and mount Seir, whom thou
wouldest not let Israel invade, when they came out of the land
of Egypt, (wherefore they turned from them, and destroyed
11 them not,) behold, *how they reward us*, by coming to cast
us out of thy possession, which thou hast given unto us
12 to inherit. O our God, wilt thou not judge them? for we
have no might against this great company which cometh
against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes are
13 upon thee.” And all Judah stood before Jehovah, with
14 their little ones, their wives and their children. Then upon
Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of
Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph,
came the Spirit of Jehovah in the midst of the congregation;
15 and he said, “Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of
Jerusalem, and thou king Jehoshaphat. Thus saith Jehovah
unto you, ‘Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this
16 great multitude; for the battle is not your’s, but God’s. To
morrow go ye down against them: behold, they come up by
the mountain-pass of Ziz; and ye shall find them at the end

of the valley, before the wilderness of Jeruel. Ye shall not ¹⁷ need to fight in this *battle*: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of Jehovah with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; to morrow go out against them: for Jehovah will be with you.”” And Jehoshaphat ¹⁸ bowed his head with his face to the ground: and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell before Jehovah worshiping Jehovah. And the Levites, of the children of the Korhites, stood up to ¹⁹ praise Jehovah the God of Israel with a loud voice on high.

And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into ²⁰ the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said,

“ Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in Jehovah your God, so shall ye be established; Believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.”

And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed ²¹ singers unto Jehovah, and choristers in festive attire, *to sing* as they went out before the army, and to say,

“ Praise ye Jehovah; for his mercy endureth for ever.”

And when they began to sing and to praise, Jehovah set ²² ambuscades against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, who were come against Judah; and they were smitten. For the children of Ammon and Moab stood up ²³ against the inhabitants of mount Seir, to slay and destroy them utterly: and when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, every one helped to destroy another. And when Judah came toward the watch-tower in the wil- ²⁴ derness, they looked unto the multitude, and, behold, they were dead bodies fallen to the earth, and none escaped. And ²⁵ when Jehoshaphat and his people came to take away the spoil of them, they found among them in abundance, both riches with the dead bodies, and precious jewels, which they stripped off for themselves, more than they could carry away: and they were three days in gathering of the spoil, it was so much.

And on the fourth day they assembled themselves in the ²⁶ valley of Berachah [BLESSING:] for there they blessed Jehovah: therefore the name of the same place was called the

27 valley of Berachah unto this day. Then they returned every man of Judah and Jerusalem, and Jehoshaphat in front of them, to go again to Jerusalem with joy; for Jehovah had made them to rejoice over their enemies. And they came to Jerusalem with lutes and harps and trumpets, unto the house 29 of Jehovah. And the fear of God was on all the kingdoms of those countries, when they had heard that Jehovah fought 30 against the enemies of Israel. So the realm of Jehoshaphat was quiet: for his God gave him rest round about.

31 And Jehoshaphat reigned over Judah: he was thirty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty-five years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Azubah 32 the daughter of Shilhi. And he walked in the way of Asa his father, and departed not from it, doing that which was 33 right in the sight of Jehovah. Howbeit the high places were not taken away: for as yet the people had not applied their hearts unto the God of their fathers.

34 Now the rest of the acts of Jehoshaphat, first and last, behold, they are written in the book of Jehu the son of Hanani, who is mentioned in the Book of the Kings of Israel.

35 And after this Jehoshaphat king of Judah joined himself 36 with Ahaziah king of Israel, who did very wickedly: and he joined himself with him to make ships to go to Tarshish: 37 and they made the ships in Ezion-geber. Then Eliezer the son of Dodavah of Mareshah prophesied against Jehoshaphat, saying, "Because thou hast joined thyself with Ahaziah, Jehovah hath shattered thy works." And the ships were shattered, so that they were not able to go to Tarshish.

1 CHAP. XXI.—Now Jehoshaphat slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David. And Jehoram his son reigned in his stead. And he had brethren the sons of Jehoshaphat, Azariah, and Jehiel, and Zechariah, and Azariah, and Michael, and Shephatiah: all these were the sons of Jehoshaphat king of Israel. And their father gave unto them great gifts of silver, and of gold, and of precious things, with fortified cities in Judah: but the kingdom he 4 gave to Jehoram; because he was the firstborn. Now when Jehoram was risen up to the kingdom of his father, he strengthened himself, and slew all his brethren with the 5 sword, and divers also of the princes of Israel. Jehoram was thirty-two years old when he began to reign, and he reigned

eight years in Jerusalem. And he walked in the way of the 6 kings of Israel, as did the house of Ahab : for he had the daughter of Ahab to wife : and he wrought that which was evil in the eyes of Jehovah. Howbeit Jehovah would not 7 destroy the house of David, because of the covenant which he had made with David, and as he promised to give unto him and unto his children, a lamp for ever.

In his days the Edomites revolted from under the dominion 8 of Judah, and made a king over themselves. Then Jehoram 9 went forth with his princes, and all his chariots with him : and he rose up by night, and smote the Edomites who had surrounded him, and the captains of the chariots. So the 10 Edomites revolted from under the hand of Judah unto this day. Then Libnah revolted from under his hand at the same time ; because he had forsaken Jehovah the God of his fathers. Moreover he made high places in the mountains of Judah, 11 and caused the inhabitants of Jerusalem to commit fornication, and compelled Judah *thereunto*. And there came a 12 writing to him from Elijah the prophet, saying, "Thus saith Jehovah the God of David thy father, 'Because thou hast not walked in the ways of Jehoshaphat thy father, nor in the ways of Asa king of Judah, but hast walked in the way of the kings 13 of Israel, and hast made Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to go a whoring, like to the whoredoms of the house of Ahab, and also hast slain thy brethren of thy father's house, who were better than thyself, behold, Jehovah will smite thy 14 people with a great plague, and thy children, and thy wives, and all thy goods : and thou shalt have great sickness by dis- 15 ease of thy bowels, until thy bowels fall out by reason of the sickness day by day.' " Moreover Jehovah stirred up 16 against Jehoram the spirit of the Philistines, and of the Arabians who *dwelt* near the Ethiopians : and they came up into 17 Judah, and brake into it, and carried away all the substance that was found in the king's house, and his sons also, and his wives ; so that there was not a son left him, save Ahaziah, the youngest of his sons. And after all this Jehovah smote 18 him in his bowels with an incurable disease. And it came to 19 pass, that in process of time, after the end of two years, his bowels fell out by reason of his sickness : so he died of sore diseases. And his people made no funeral fire for him, like the funeral fires of his fathers. He was thirty-two years old 20 when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem eight

years, and departed without being regretted. Howbeit they buried him in the city of David, but not in the sepulchres of the kings.

CHAP. XXII.—And the inhabitants of Jerusalem made Ahaziah his youngest son king in his stead: for the band of men which came with the Arabians to the camp had slain all the eldest. So Ahaziah the son of Jehoram king of Judah reigned. Ahaziah was forty-two years old when he began to reign, and he reigned one year in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Athaliah the daughter of Omri. And he walked in the ways of the house of Ahab: for his mother was his counsellor to do wickedly. And he did evil in the sight of Jehovah like the house of Ahab: for they were his counsellors after the death of his father to his destruction. And he walked after their counsel, and went with Joram the son of Ahab king of Israel to war against Hazael king of Syria at Ramoth-gilead: and the Syrians smote Joram. And he returned to be healed in Jezreel because of the wounds which were given him at Ramah, when he fought with Hazael king of Syria. And Ahaziah, the son of Jehoram king of Judah, went down to see Joram, the son of Ahab at Jezreel, because he was sick. And the destruction of Ahaziah was of God by coming to Joram: for when he was come, he went out with Joram against Jehu the son of Nimshi, whom Jehovah had anointed to cut off the house of Ahab. And it came to pass, that, when Jehu was executing judgment upon the house of Ahab, and found the princes of Judah, and the sons of the brethren of Ahaziah, who ministered to Ahaziah, he slew them. And he sought Ahaziah: and they caught him, (for he was hidden in Samaria,) and brought him to Jehu: and when they had slain him, they buried him: “Because,” said they, “he is the son of Jehoshaphat, who sought Jehovah with all his heart.” So the house of Ahaziah had no strength to retain the kingdom. And when Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she arose and destroyed all the seed royal of the house of Judah. But Jehoashabeath, the daughter of the king, took Joash the son of Ahaziah, and stole him from among the king's sons who were to be slain, and put him and his nurse in a bedchamber. So Jehoashabeath, the daughter of king Jehoram, the wife of Jehoiada the priest, (for she was the sister of Ahaziah,) hid him from

Athaliah, so that she slew him not. And he was with them ¹² hidden in the house of God six years: and Athaliah reigned over the land.

CHAP. XXIII.—And in the seventh year Jehoiada ¹ strengthened himself, and took the captains of hundreds, Azariah the son of Jeroham, and Ishmael the son of Jehohanan, and Azariah the son of Obed, and Maaseiah the son of Adaiah, and Elishaphat the son of Zichri, into covenant with him. And they went about in Judah, and gathered ² the Levites out of all the cities of Judah, and the chief of the fathers of Israel; and they came to Jerusalem. And all ³ the congregation made a covenant with the king in the house of God. And *Jehoiada* said to them, “Behold, the king’s son shall reign, as Jehovah hath said of the sons of David. This is the thing that ye shall do; a third part of you that ⁴ enter in on the sabbath, of the priests and of the Levites, shall be keepers of the doors; and a third part shall be at ⁵ the king’s house; and a third part at the gate of the foundation: and all the people shall be in the courts of the house of Jehovah. But let none come into the house of Jehovah, ⁶ save the priests, and those of the Levites that minister; they shall go in, for they are holy: but all the people shall keep the ordinance of Jehovah. And the Levites shall surround ⁷ the king, every man with his weapons in his hand; and whosoever else cometh into the house, he shall be put to death: but be ye with the king when he cometh in, and when he goeth out.” So the Levites and all Judah did according to ⁸ all things that *Jehoiada* the priest had commanded; and they took every man his men that were to come in on the sabbath, with them that were to go out on the sabbath: for *Jehoiada* the priest dismissed not the courses. Moreover ⁹ *Jehoiada* the priest delivered to the captains of hundreds, spears, and bucklers, and shields, which had been king David’s, which were in the house of God. And he set all the ¹⁰ people, every man having his weapon in his hand, from the right corner of the temple to the left corner of the temple, along by the altar and the temple, beside the king round about. And they brought forth the king’s son, and put ¹¹ upon him the crown, and *gave him* the testimony, and made him king. And *Jehoiada* and his sons anointed him, and said, “Long live the king!”

And Athaliah heard the noise of the people running and ¹²

praising the king, and she came to the people into the house
13 of Jehovah : and she looked, and, behold, the king was standing upon his pedestal at the entrance, and the princes and the trumpeters were by the king : and all the people of the land were rejoicing, and blowing with trumpets; also the singers, and such as taught to sing praise, with instruments of musick. And Athaliah rent her clothes, and said, "Treason ! Treason !"
14 But Jehoiada the priest brought out the captains of hundreds that were set over the host, and said unto them, "Put her forth without the ranks : and whoso followeth her, let him be slain with the sword." For the priest had said, "Slay her
15 not in the house of Jehovah." So they laid hands on her ; and she went by the horse-avenue to the king's house ; and there they slew her.
16 And Jehoiada made a covenant between him, and between all the people, and between the king, that they should be the
17 people of Jehovah. And all the people went to the house of Baal, and tore it down ; they brake his altars and his images in pieces, and slew Mattan the priest of Baal before the altars.
18 And Jehoiada appointed the offices of the house of Jehovah by the hand of the priests the Levites, whom David had distributed in the house of Jehovah, to offer the burnt-offerings of Jehovah, as it is written in the law of Moses, with rejoicing
19 and with singing, *as it was ordained* by David. And he set the porters at the gates of the house of Jehovah, that
20 none who was unclean in any thing should enter. And he took the captains of hundreds, and the nobles, and the governors of the people, and all the people of the land, and brought down the king from the house of Jehovah : and they came through the upper gate of *the temple* into the king's house, and set the king upon the throne of the kingdom.
21 And all the people of the land rejoiced ; and the city was quiet ; and they slew Athaliah with the sword.

1 CHAP. XXIV.—Joash was seven years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years in Jerusalem. And
2 his mother's name was Zibiah of Beer-sheba. And Joash did that which was right in the sight of Jehovah all the days
3 of Jehoiada the priest. And Jehoiada took for him two wives : and he begat sons and daughters.

And it came to pass after this, that it came into the heart of Joash to repair the house of Jehovah. And he gathered together the priests and the Levites, and said to them, "Go

out unto the cities of Judah, and gather from all Israel money to repair the house of your God, from year to year; and see that ye hasten the matter.” Howbeit the Levites hastened it ⁶ not. And the king called for Jehoiada the chief *priest*, and said unto him, “Why hast thou not required of the Levites to bring in out of Judah and out of Jerusalem the collection, according to the commandment of Moses the servant of Jehovah, and out of the congregation of Israel, for the tabernacle of testimony?” For the sons of Athaliah, that wicked woman, ⁷ had broken up the house of God; and also of all the consecrated things of the house of Jehovah they had made images of Baal. And at the king’s commandment they made a ⁸ chest, and set it without at the gate of the house of Jehovah. And they made a proclamation through Judah and Jerusalem, ⁹ to bring in to Jehovah the collection which Moses the servant of God *had laid* upon Israel in the wilderness. And all the ¹⁰ princes and all the people rejoiced, and brought in, and cast into the chest, until they had made an end. Now it came to ¹¹ pass, that at the time when the chest was brought unto the king’s office by the hand of the Levites, and when they saw that there was much money, the king’s scribe and the high priest’s officer came and emptied the chest, and took it, and carried it to its place again. Thus they did day by day, and gathered money in abundance. And the king and Jehoiada gave it ¹² to those who did the work of the service of the house of Jehovah; and they hired masons and carpenters to repair the house of Jehovah, and also workers in iron and brass to strengthen the house of Jehovah. And the workmen ¹³ wrought, and the damages of the work were amended by them, and they set the house of God in its *proper* order, and restored it. And when they had finished it, they brought ¹⁴ the rest of the money before the king and Jehoiada, whereof were made vessels for the house of Jehovah, even vessels to minister, and to offer withal, and spoons, and vessels of gold and silver. And they offered burnt-offerings in the house of Jehovah continually all the days of Jehoiada.

But Jehoiada became old, and was full of days when he ¹⁵ died; a hundred and thirty years old was he when he died. And they buried him in the city of David along with the ¹⁶ kings, because he had done good in Israel, both toward God, and his house.

And after the death of Jehoiada the princes of Judah ¹⁷ came and made obeisance to the king. Then the king

18 hearkened unto them. And they left the house of Jehovah the God of their fathers, and served upright pillars and idols : and wrath came upon Judah and Jerusalem for
19 this their transgression. Yet he sent prophets to them, to bring them again unto Jehovah ; and they testified against
20 them : but they would not give ear. And the Spirit of God came upon Zechariah the son of Jehoiada the priest, and he stood above the people, and said unto them, "Thus saith God, 'Why transgress ye the commandments of Jehovah, so that ye cannot prosper ? Because ye have forsaken Jehovah,
21 he hath also forsaken you.'" And they conspired against him, and stoned him with stones at the command of the
22 king, in the court of the house of Jehovah. Thus Joash the king remembered not the kindness which Jehoiada his father had done to him, but slew his son. And when he died, he said, "Jehovah will look *upon this*, and require it."
23 And it came to pass at the end of the year, that the host of Syria came up against him : and they came to Judah and Jerusalem, and destroyed all the princes of the people from among the people, and sent all the spoil of them unto the
24 king of Damascus. Although the army of the Syrians came with a small company of men, yet Jehovah delivered a very great host into their hand, because they had forsaken Jehovah the God of their fathers. And they executed judgment against Joash. And when they were departed from him, (for they left him in great diseases,) his own servants conspired against him, for the blood of the sons of Jehoiada the priest ; and they slew him on his bed, and he died. And they buried him in the city of David, but they buried
26 him not in the sepulchres of the kings. And these are they that conspired against him ; Zabad the son of Shimeath an Ammonitess, and Jehozabad the son of Shimrith a Moabitess.
27 And his sons, and the greatness of the tribute laid upon him, and the repairing of the house of God, behold, they are written in the commentary upon the Book of the Kings. And Amaziah his son reigned in his stead.

1 CHAP. XXV.—Amaziah was twenty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jehoaddan of
2 Jerusalem. And he did that which was right in the sight of
3 Jehovah, but not with a perfect heart. And it came to pass,

when the kingdom was established with him, that he slew his servants who had killed the king his father. But he slew not their children, but *did* as it is written in the law in the book of Moses, where Jehovah commanded, saying, “The fathers shall not be put to death for the children, neither shall the children be put to death for the fathers, but every man shall be put to death for his own sin.”

And Amaziah gathered Judah together, and made them *s* captains over thousands, and captains over hundreds, according to the houses of their fathers, throughout all Judah and Benjamin : and he numbered them from twenty years old and upward, and found them three hundred thousand choice men, able to go forth to war, that could handle spear and shield. He hired also out of Israel a hundred thousand mighty men of valour, for a hundred talents of silver. But there came a man of God to him, saying, “O king, let *7* not the army of Israel go with thee ; for Jehovah is not with Israel, *nor* with any of the children of Ephraim. But *if s* thou *wilt*, go, do it, be strong for the battle : *yet* God will make thee fall before the enemy : for God hath power to help, and to cast down.” And Amaziah said to the man of *9* God, “But what shall we do for the hundred talents which I have given to the army of Israel ?” And the man of God answered, “Jehovah is able to give unto thee much more than that.” Then Amaziah separated them, *to wit*, the *10* army that was come to him out of Ephraim, that they might go home again : and their anger was greatly kindled against Judah, and they returned home in great anger. And *11* Amaziah strengthened himself, and led forth his people, and went to the Valley of Salt, and smote of the children of Seir ten thousand. And other ten thousand *that were* left alive, *12* the children of Judah carried away captive, and brought them unto the top of the rock, and cast them down from the top of the rock, so that they all were dashed in pieces. But *13* the soldiers of the army whom Amaziah sent back, that they should not go with him to battle, fell upon the cities of Judah, from Samaria even unto Beth-horon, and smote three thousand of them, and took much spoil.

And it came to pass, after that Amaziah was come from the *14* slaughter of the Edomites, that he brought the gods of the children of Seir, and set them up to be his gods, and bowed down himself before them, and burned incense unto them. Wherefore the anger of Jehovah was kindled against Amaziah, *15*

and he sent unto him a prophet, who said unto him, "Why hast thou sought after the gods of the people, who could not 16 deliver their own people out of thy hand?" And it came to pass, as he talked with him, that *the king* said unto him, "Art thou made of the king's counsel? Forbear; why shouldest thou be smitten?" Then the prophet forbore, and said, "I know that God hath determined to destroy thee, because thou hast done this, and hast not hearkened unto my counsel."

- 17 Then Amaziah king of Judah determined within himself, and sent to Joash, the son of Jehoahaz, the son of Jehu, king of Israel, saying, "Come, let us look one another in the 18 face." And Joash king of Israel sent to Amaziah king of Judah, saying, "The thistle that was in Lebanon sent to the cedar that was in Lebanon, saying, 'Give thy daughter to my son to wife:' and there passed by a wild beast that was in 19 Lebanon, and trampled down the thistle. Thou sayest *to thyself*, 'Behold, thou hast smitten the Edomites;' and thy heart lifteth thee up to boast: abide now at home; why shouldest thou meddle to *thy* hurt, that thou shouldest fall, even thou, 20 and Judah with thee?" But Amaziah would not hear; for *it came* of God, that he might deliver them into the hand of *their enemies*, because they sought after the gods of Edom. 21 So Joash the king of Israel went up; and he and Amaziah king of Judah looked one another in the face, at Beth-she-22 mesh, which belongeth to Judah. And Judah was smitten down before Israel, and they fled every man to his tent. 23 And Joash the king of Israel took Amaziah king of Judah, the son of Joash, the son of Ahaziah, at Beth-shemesh, and brought him to Jerusalem; and battered down the wall of Jerusalem from the gate of Ephraim to the gate of the 24 corner-tower, four hundred cubits. And *he took* all the gold and the silver, and all the vessels that were found in the house of God with Obed-edom, and the treasures of the king's house, and the hostages; and returned to Samaria. 25 And Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah lived after the death of Joash son of Jehoahaz king of Israel fifteen years. 26 And the rest of the acts of Amaziah, first and last, behold, are they not written in the book of the Kings of Judah and Israel? 27 And after the time that Amaziah turned away from following Jehovah they made a conspiracy against him in Jerusa-

lem ; and he fled to Lachish : but they sent after him to La-chish, and slew him there. And they brought him on horses, 2^s and buried him with his fathers in the city of Judah.

CHAP. XXVI.—And all the people of Judah took Uzziah, 1 who was sixteen years old, and made him king, instead of his father Amaziah. He built Eloth, and restored it to Judah, after that the king slept with his fathers. Uzziah was sixteen 3 years old when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty-two years in Jerusalem. His mother's name also was Jecoliah of Jerusalem. And he did that which was right in the sight 4 of Jehovah, according to all that his father Amaziah did. And he sought God in the days of Zechariah, who had 5 understanding in the visions of God: and as long as he sought Jehovah, God made him to prosper. And he went 6 forth and warred against the Philistines, and battered down the wall of Gath, and the wall of Jabneh, and the wall of Ashdod, and built cities about Ashdod, and among the Philis-tines. And God helped him against the Philistines, and 7 against the Arabians who dwelt in Gur-baal, and the Me-hunites. And the Ammonites gave gifts to Uzziah: and 8 his name spread abroad even to the entrance to Egypt; for he became exceedingly powerful. Moreover Uzziah built 9 towers in Jerusalem at the corner gate, and at the valley gate, and at the angles of the wall, and fortified them. Also he built towers in the desert, and digged many 10 wells: for he had much cattle, both in the low country and in the plains: husbandmen also, and vine dressers in the mountains, and in Carmel: for he loved husbandry. More- 11 over Uzziah had a host of fighting men, who went out to war by bands, under the hand of Hananiah, one of the king's captains, according to the number of their account *as it was taken* by the hand of Jeiel the scribe and Maaseiah the ruler. The whole number of the chief of the fathers of the 12 mighty men of valour was two thousand six hundred. And 13 under their hand was an army, three hundred thousand and seven thousand and five hundred, who made war with mighty power, to help the king against the enemy. And Uzziah 14 prepared for them, *even* for all the host, shields, and spears, and helmets, and coats of mail, and bows, and slings to cast stones. And he made in Jerusalem engines, invented by 15 skilful men, to be on the towers and upon the bulwarks, to shoot arrows and great stones. And his name spread far

abroad; for he was marvellously helped, till he became
16 mighty. But when he became mighty, his heart was lifted
up to his destruction: for he transgressed against Jehovah
his God, and went into the temple of Jehovah to burn incense
17 upon the altar of incense. And Azariah the priest went in
after him, and with him eighty priests of Jehovah, valiant
18 men: and they withheld Uzziah the king, and said unto him,
“*It appertaineth* not unto thee, O Uzziah, to burn incense
unto Jehovah, but to the priests the sons of Aaron, who are
consecrated to burn incense: go out of the sanctuary; for
thou hast trespassed; neither shall it be for thine honour
19 from the Lord Jehovah.” Then Uzziah was enraged, and *took*
a censer in his hand to burn incense: and while he was
enraged with the priests, the leprosy rose up in his forehead,
in presence of the priests in the house of Jehovah, beside the
20 altar of incense. And Azariah the chief priest, and all the
priests, looked upon him, and behold he was leprous in his
forehead; and they thrust him out thence; yea, himself
hasted also to go out, because Jehovah had smitten him.
21 And Uzziah the king was a leper unto the day of his death,
and dwelt in a separate house, being a leper; for he was cut
off from the house of Jehovah: and Jotham his son was over
the king’s house, judging the people of the land.
22 And Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, wrote the
23 rest of the acts of Uzziah, first and last. So Uzziah slept
with his fathers, and they buried him with his fathers in the
field of burial which belonged to the kings; for they said,
“He is a leper.” And Jotham his son reigned in his
stead.

1 CHAP. XXVII.—Jotham was twenty-five years old when
he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem.
And his mother’s name was Jerushah, the daughter of Zadok.
2 And he did that which was right in the sight of Jehovah,
according to all that his father Uzziah had done: howbeit
he entered not into the temple of Jehovah. But the people
3 did yet corruptly. He built the upper gate of the house of
Jehovah, and within the wall of the height *on mount Zion*.
4 he built much. Moreover he built cities in the mountains
of Judah, and in the forests he built castles and towers.
5 And he waged war with the king of the Ammonites, and pre-
vailed against them. And the children of Ammon gave him
the same year a hundred talents of silver, and ten thousand

cors of wheat, and ten thousand of barley. So much did the children of Ammon pay unto him, both the second year, and the third. So Jotham became mighty, because he 6 ordered his ways *as* in the presence of Jehovah his God.

And the rest of the acts of Jotham, and all his wars, and 7 his ways, behold, they are written in the Book of the Kings of Israel and Judah. He was twenty-five years old when he 8 began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem.

And Jotham slept with his fathers, and they buried him 9 in the city of David: and Ahaz his son reigned in his stead.

CHAP. XXVIII.—Ahaz was twenty-five years old when 1 he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem: and he did not that which was right in the sight of Jehovah, like David his father: but he walked in 2 the ways of the kings of Israel, yea and he made molten images, *even* statues of Baal. Moreover he burnt incense 3 in the valley of the son of Hinnom, and burnt his children in the fire, after the abominations of the heathen whom Jehovah had cast out before the children of Israel. And he 4 sacrificed and burnt incense in the high places, and on the hills, and under every green tree. Wherefore Jehovah his 5 God delivered him into the hand of the king of Syria; and they smote him, and carried away a great multitude of them captives, and brought *them* to Damascus. And he was also delivered into the hand of the king of Israel, who smote him with a great slaughter. For Pekah the son of Remaliah 6 slew in Judah a hundred and twenty thousand in one day, all valiant men; because they had forsaken Jehovah the God of their fathers. And Zichri, a mighty man of Ephraim, 7 slew Maaseiah the king's son, and Azrikam the governor of the house, and Elkanah who was next to the king. And 8 the children of Israel carried away into captivity two hundred thousand of their brethren, *their* wives, sons, and daughters; and took also away much spoil from them, and brought the spoil to Samaria. But a prophet of Jehovah was there, whose 9 name was Oded: and he went out before the host which came to Samaria, and said unto them, “Behold, because Jehovah the God of your fathers was wroth with Judah, he hath delivered them into your hand, and ye have slain them in a rage that reacheth up unto heaven. And now ye purpose to 10 keep under the children of Judah and Jerusalem, for bond-

men and bondwomen unto you : *but are there* not with you,
11 even with you, sins against Jehovah your God ? Now hear
me therefore, and deliver the captives again, which ye have
taken captive of your brethren : else the fierce wrath of
12 Jehovah will be upon you.” Then certain of the heads of
the children of Ephraim, Azariah the son of Johanan, Bere-
chiah the son of Meshillemoth, and Jehizkiah the son of
Shallum, and Amasa the son of Hadlai, stood up against
13 them that came from the war, and said unto them, “ Ye
shall not bring in the captives hither : for whereas we have
offended against Jehovah *already*, ye intend to add to our
sins and to our trespass : for our trespass is great, and there
14 is fierce wrath against Israel.” So the armed men left the
captives and the spoil before the princes and all the con-
15 gregation. And the men who have been *above* expressed by
name rose up, and took the captives, and with the spoil
clothed all that were naked among them, and arrayed them,
and shod them, and gave them to eat and to drink, and
anointed them, and carried all the feeble of them upon asses,
and brought them to Jericho, the city of palm trees, to their
brethren : *then* they returned to Samaria.

16 And at that time king Ahaz sent unto the king of
17 Assyria to help him. For again the Edomites had come and
18 smitten Judah, and carried away captives. The Philistines
also had invaded the cities of the low country, and of the
south of Judah, and had taken Beth-shemesh, and Ajalon,
and Gedereth, and Shocho with the villages thereof, and
Timnah with the villages thereof, Gimzo also and the
19 villages thereof : and they dwelt there. For Jehovah had
brought Judah low because of Ahaz king of Judah ; for
he had made Judah naked, and transgressed sore against
20 Jehovah. And Tilgath-pilneser king of Assyria came unto
21 him, and distressed him, but strengthened him not. For
Ahaz despoiled the house of Jehovah and the house of the
king, and of the princes, and gave it unto the king of
22 Assyria : but he helped him not. And in the time of his
distress this same king Ahaz trespassed yet more against
23 Jehovah : for he sacrificed unto the gods of Damascus, who
had smitten him : and he said, “ Because the gods of the
kings of Syria help them, *therefore* will I sacrifice to them,
that they may help me.” But they were the ruin of him,
24 and of all Israel. And Ahaz gathered together the vessels
of the house of God, and cut in pieces the vessels of the

house of God, and shut up the doors of the house of Jehovah, and he made for himself altars in every corner of Jerusalem. And in every city of Judah he made high places to burn incense unto other gods, and provoked to anger Jehovah the God of his fathers.

And the rest of his acts and all his ways, first and last, behold, they are written in the Book of the Kings of Judah and Israel. And Ahaz slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the city, even in Jerusalem : but they brought him not into the sepulchres of the kings of Israel : and Hezekiah his son reigned in his stead.

CHAP. XXIX.—Hezekiah began to reign when he was twenty-five years old, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Abijah, the daughter of Zechariah. And he did that which was right in the sight of Jehovah, according to all that David his father had done.

In the first year of his reign, in the first month, he opened the doors of the house of Jehovah, and repaired them. And he brought in the priests and the Levites, and gathered them together into the east street, and said unto them, "Hear me, ye Levites ; sanctify now yourselves, and sanctify the house of Jehovah the God of your fathers, and carry forth the impurity out of the holy place. For our fathers have trespassed, and done that which was evil in the eyes of Jehovah our God, and have forsaken him, and have turned away their faces from the habitation of Jehovah, and turned their backs upon it. Also they have shut up the doors of the porch, and put out the lamps, and have not burned incense nor offered burnt-offerings in the holy place unto the God of Israel. Wherefore the wrath of Jehovah was upon Judah and Jerusalem, and he hath delivered them to trouble, to astonishment, and to hissing, as ye see with your eyes. For, behold our fathers have fallen by the sword, and our sons and our daughters and our wives are in captivity for this. Now it is in my heart to make a covenant with Jehovah the God of Israel, that his fierce wrath may turn away from us. My sons, be not now negligent : for Jehovah hath chosen you to stand before him, to serve him, and that ye should minister unto him, and burn incense."

Then the Levites arose, Mahath the son of Amasai, and

Joel the son of Azariah, of the sons of the Kohathites ; and of the sons of Merari, Kish the son of Abdi, and Azariah the son of Jehalelel : and of the Gershonites, Joah the son of 13 Zimmah, and Eden the son of Joah : and of the sons of Eli-zaphan, Shimri and Jeiel ; and of the sons of Asaph, Zechariah 14 and Mattaniah : and of the sons of Heman, Jehiel, and Shimei ; 15 and of the sons of Jeduthan, Shemaiah, and Uzziel. And they gathered their brethren, and sanctified themselves, and came, according to the commandment of the king, by the 16 words of Jehovah, to purify the house of Jehovah. And the priests went into the inner part of the house of Jehovah, to purify it, and brought out all the uncleanness that they found in the temple of Jehovah, into the court of the house of Jehovah. And the Levites took it, to carry it out abroad into 17 the brook Kidron. Now they began on the first day of the first month to sanctify, and on the eighth day of the month came they to the porch of Jehovah : so they sanctified the house of Jehovah in eight days ; and in the sixteenth day of 18 the first month they made an end. Then they went in to Hezekiah the king, and said " We have purified all the house of Jehovah, and the altar of burnt-offering, with all the imple-ments thereof, and the shew-bread table, with all the vessels 19 thereof. Moreover all the vessels, which king Ahaz in his reign did cast away in his transgression, have we set in order and sanctified, and, behold, they are before the altar of Jehovah."

20 Then Hezekiah the king rose early, and gathered the rulers 21 of the city, and went up to the house of Jehovah. And they brought seven bullocks, and seven rams, and seven lambs, and seven he goats, for a sin offering for the kingdom, and for the sanctuary, and for Judah. And he commanded the priests 22 the sons of Aaron to offer them on the altar of Jehovah. So they killed the bullocks, and the priests received the blood, and sprinkled it on the altar : likewise, when they had killed the rams, they sprinkled the blood upon the altar : they killed also the lambs, and they sprinkled the blood upon the altar. 23 And they brought forth the he goats for the sin-offering before the king and the congregation ; and they laid their hands upon 24 them : and the priest killed them, and they made reconcilia-tion with their blood upon the altar, to make an atonement for all Israel : for the king commanded that the burnt-offering 25 and the sin-offering should be made for all Israel. And he set the Levites in the house of Jehovah with cymbals, with

lutes, and with harps, according to the commandment of David, and of Gad the king's seer, and Nathan the prophet : for *so was* the commandment of Jehovah by his prophets. And the Levites stood with the instruments of David, and the ²⁶ priests with the trumpets. And Hezekiah commanded to offer ²⁷ the burnt-offering upon the altar. And when the burnt-offering began, the song of Jehovah began *also*, with the trumpets and with the instruments *ordained* by David ²⁸ king of Israel. And all the congregation worshipped, and the singers sang, ²⁹ and the trumpeters sounded : *and all this continued* until the burnt-offering was finished. And when they had made an ³⁰ end of offering, the king and all that were present with him bowed themselves, and worshipped. Moreover Hezekiah the ³¹ king and the princes commanded the Levites to sing praise unto Jehovah with the words of David, and of Asaph the seer. And they sang praises with gladness, and they bowed their heads and worshipped. Then Hezekiah answered and ³² said, "Now ye have consecrated yourselves unto Jehovah, come near and bring sacrifices and thank-offerings into the house of Jehovah." And the congregation brought in sacrifices and thank-offerings ; and as many as were of a free heart *brought* burnt-offerings. And the number of the burnt-offer- ³³ ings, which the congregation brought, was threescore and ten bullocks, a hundred rams, *and* two hundred lambs : all these were for a burnt-offering to Jehovah. And the consecrated ³⁴ things were six hundred oxen and three thousand sheep. But the priests were too few, so that they could not slay all the burnt-offerings : wherefore their brethren the Levites helped them, till the work was ended, and until the other priests had sanctified themselves : for the Levites were more upright in heart to sanctify themselves than the priests. And also the ³⁵ burnt-offerings were in abundance, with the fat of the peace-offerings, and the drink-offerings for every burnt-offering. So the service of the house of Jehovah was set in order. And ³⁶ Hezekiah rejoiced, and all the people, that God had prepared the people : for the thing was done suddenly.

CHAP. XXX.—And Hezekiah sent to all Israel and ¹ Judah, and wrote letters also to Ephraim and Manasseh, that they should come to the house of Jehovah at Jerusalem, to keep the passover unto Jehovah the God of Israel. For the ² king had determined within himself, and his princes, and all the congregation in Jerusalem, to keep the passover in the

3 second month. For they could not keep it at that time, because the priests had not sanctified themselves sufficiently, neither had the people gathered themselves together to
4 Jerusalem. And the thing pleased the king and all the
5 congregation. So they established a decree to make proclamation throughout all Israel, from Beer-sheba even to Dan, that they should come to keep the passover unto Jehovah the God of Israel at Jerusalem: for they had not done it
6 of a long *time in such sort* as it was written. So the couriers went with the letters from the king and his princes throughout all Israel and Judah; and according to the commandment of the king, saying, "Ye children of Israel, turn again unto Jehovah the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, and he will return to the remnant of you, that are escaped
7 out of the hand of the kings of Assyria. And be not ye like your fathers, and like your brethren, who trespassed against Jehovah the God of their fathers, who therefore gave
8 them up to desolation, as ye see. Now be not ye stiff-necked, as your fathers were, but yield yourselves unto Jehovah, and enter into his sanctuary, which he hath sanctified for ever: and serve Jehovah your God, that the fierceness of his wrath
9 may turn away from you. For if ye turn again unto Jehovah, your brethren and your children shall find compassion before them that lead them captive, so that they shall come again into this land: for Jehovah your God is gracious and merciful, and will not turn away his face from you, if ye return unto him."

10 So the couriers passed from city to city, through the country of Ephraim and Manasseh even unto Zebulun: but they
11 laughed them to scorn, and mocked them. Nevertheless divers of Asher and Manasseh and of Zebulun humbled
12 themselves, and came to Jerusalem. Also in Judah the hand of God was *with them*, to give them one heart to do the commandment of the king and of the princes, by the word of Jehovah.

13 And there assembled at Jerusalem much people to keep the feast of unleavened bread in the second month, a very
14 great congregation. And they arose and took away the altars which were in Jerusalem, and they took away all the altars
15 for incense, and cast them into the brook Kidron. And they killed the passover on the fourteenth day of the second month: and the priests and the Levites were ashamed, and sanctified themselves, and brought in the burnt-offerings into

the house of Jehovah. And they stood in their place after 16 their manner, according to the law of Moses the man of God : *and* the priests sprinkled the blood, *which they received* of the hand of the Levites. For there were many in the 17 congregation that were not sanctified : therefore the Levites had the charge of the killing of the passovers for every one that was not clean, to sanctify them unto Jehovah. For a 18 multitude of the people, even many of Ephraim, and Manasseh, Issachar, and Zebulun, had not purified themselves, yet did they eat the passover otherwise than it was written. But Hezekiah prayed for them, saying, “The good Jehovah pardon every one that prepareth his heart to seek God, Jehovah the God of his *fathers*, though he be not *cleansed* according to the purification of the *sanctuary*.” And Jehovah 20 hearkened to Hezekiah, and forgave the people. And the 21 children of Israel who were present at Jerusalem kept the feast of unleavened bread seven days with great gladness : and the Levites and the priests praised Jehovah day by day, singing with loud instruments unto Jehovah. And Hezekiah 22 spake encouragingly unto all the Levites that taught the good knowledge of Jehovah : and they did eat throughout the feast seven days, offering peace-offerings, and making confession to Jehovah the God of their fathers. And the 23 whole assembly determined to keep other seven days : and they kept *other* seven days with gladness. For Hezekiah 24 king of Judah gave to the congregation a thousand bullocks and seven thousand sheep ; and the princes gave to the con-gregation a thousand bullocks and ten thousand sheep : and a great number of priests sanctified themselves. And all 25 the congregation of Judah, with the priests and the Levites, and all the congregation that came out of Israel, and the strangers that came out of the land of Israel, and that dwelt in Judah, rejoiced. So there was great joy in Jerusalem : 26 for since the time of Solomon the son of David king of Israel there was not the like in Jerusalem. And the priests *and* 27 the Levites arose and blessed the people : and their voice was heard, and their prayer came up to his holy dwelling-place, even unto heaven.

CHAP. XXXI.—Now when all this was finished, all Israel 1 that were present went out to the cities of Judah, and brake the images in pieces, and cut down the standing pillars, and threw down the high places and the altars, out of all Judah

and Benjamin, in Ephraim also and Manasseh, until they had utterly destroyed them all. Then all the children of Israel returned, every man to his possession, into their own cities.

2 And Hezekiah established the courses of the priests and the Levites after their courses, every man according to his service, the priests and Levites for burnt-offerings and for peace-offerings, to minister, and to give thanks, and to praise in the gates
3 of the camp of Jehovah. *He appointed* also the king's portion of his substance for the burnt-offerings, to wit, for the morning and evening burnt-offerings, and the burnt-offerings for the sabbaths, and for the new moons, and for the set feasts,
4 as it is written in the law of Jehovah. Moreover he commanded the people that dwelt in Jerusalem to give the portion of the priests and the Levites, that they might be confirmed
5 in the law of Jehovah. And as soon as the commandment came abroad, the children of Israel brought in abundance the first-fruits of corn, wine, and oil, and honey, and of all the increase of the field; and the tithe of all things
6 they brought in abundantly. And *as for* the children of Israel and Judah, who dwelt in the cities of Judah, they also brought in the tithe of oxen and sheep, and the tithe of holy things which were consecrated unto Jehovah their
7 God, and laid them by heaps. In the third month they began to lay the foundation of the heaps, and finished them
8 in the seventh month. And when Hezekiah and the princes came and saw the heaps, they blessed Jehovah, and his people
9 Israel. Then Hezekiah questioned with the priests and the
10 Levites concerning the heaps. And Azariah the chief priest, of the house of Zadok, answered him, and said, " Since *the people* began to bring the offerings into the house of Jehovah we have had enough to eat, and have left plenty: for Jehovah hath blessed his people; and that which is left is this great
11 store." Then Hezekiah commanded to prepare chambers in
12 the house of Jehovah; and they prepared them: and they brought in the offerings and the tithes and the dedicated things faithfully: over which Cananiah the Levite was ruler, and Shi-
13 mei his brother was the next. And Jehiel, and Azaziah, and Nahath, and Asahel, and Jerimoth, and Jozabad, and Eliel, and Ismachiah, and Mahath, and Benaiah, were overseers under the hand of Cananiah and Shimei his brother, at the commandment of Hezekiah the king, and Azariah the ruler of the house
14 of God. And Koré the son of Imnah the Levite, the porter toward the east, was over the freewill offerings to God, to distribute the oblations to Jehovah, and the most holy things.

And under his direction were Eden, and Miniamin, and ¹⁵ Jeshua, and Shemaiah, Amariah, and Shecaniah, in the cities of the priests, in trust to give unto their brethren by courses, as well to the great as to the small : beside their registered ¹⁶ male offspring from three years old and upward, even unto every one that entereth into the house of Jehovah, his daily portion for their service in their charges according to their courses ; both to the registered priests by the house of their ¹⁷ fathers, and the Levites from twenty years old and upward, in their charges by their courses ; and to those who were enrolled in the register of all their little ones, their wives, and their sons, and their daughters, through all the congregation : for in their trust they sanctified themselves in holiness : also ¹⁹ of the sons of Aaron the priests, *who were* in the pasturage fields of their cities, in every city, the men who have been expressed by name, *were appointed* to give portions to all the males among the priests, and to all that were enrolled in the registers among the Levites. And thus did Hezekiah throughout ²⁰ all Judah, and wrought that which was good and right and true before Jehovah his God. And in every work that he began in ²¹ the service of the house of God, and in the law, and in the commandments, to seek his God, he acted with all his heart, and he prospered.

CHAP. XXXII.—After these things, and *this* integrity, ¹ Sennacherib king of Assyria came, and entered into Judah, and encamped against the fortified cities, and thought to win them for himself. And when Hezekiah saw that Sennacherib was come, and that he was determined to fight against Jerusalem, he took counsel with his princes and his mighty ³ men to stop the waters of the fountains which were without the city : and they helped him. And there was gathered ⁴ much people together, who stopped all the fountains, and the brook that ran through the midst of the land, saying, “Why should the kings of Assyria come, and find much water ?” Also he took courage, and built up all the wall that was ⁵ broken, and raised it up to the towers, and *he built* another wall without, and repaired the embankment in the city of David, and made darts and shields in abundance. And ⁶ he set captains of war over the people, and gathered them together unto him in the street of the gate of the city, and spake encouragingly to them, saying, “Be strong and valiant ; ⁷ be not afraid nor dismayed for the king of Assyria, nor for all the multitude that is with him : for there are more with us

s than with him : with him is an arm of flesh ; but with us is the arm of Jehovah our God to help us, and to fight our battles." And the people relied upon the words of Hezekiah king of Judah. After this Sennacherib king of Assyria sent his servants to Jerusalem, (but he himself laid siege against Lachish, and all his power with him,) unto Hezekiah king of Judah, and unto all Judah that were at Jerusalem, saying, 10 "Thus saith Sennacherib king of Assyria, Whereon do ye trust, that ye abide in the siege in Jerusalem ? Doth not Hezekiah persuade you to give over yourselves to die by famine and by thirst, saying, 'Jehovah our God will deliver us 11 out of the hand of the king of Assyria ?' Hath not the same Hezekiah taken away his high places and his altars, and commanded Judah and Jerusalem, saying, 'Ye shall 12 worship before one altar only, and burn incense upon it ?' Know ye not what I and my fathers have done unto all the people of other lands ? Were the gods of the nations of those lands at all able to deliver their lands out of my 14 hand ? Who was there among all the gods of those nations which my fathers utterly destroyed, that could deliver his people out of my hand, that your God should 15 be able to deliver you out of my hand ? Now therefore let not Hezekiah deceive you, nor persuade you on this manner, neither believe ye him : for no god of any nation or kingdom was able to deliver his people out of my hand, and out of the hand of my fathers : how much less shall your 16 God deliver you out of my hand ?" And his servants spake yet more against the Lord Jehovah, and against his servant 17 Hezekiah. He wrote also letters to rail on Jehovah the God of Israel, and to speak against him, saying, "As the gods of the nations of other lands have not delivered their people out of my hand, so neither shall the God of Hezekiah deliver his 18 people out of my hand." Then they cried with a loud voice in the Jewish language unto the people of Jerusalem that were on the wall, to affright them, and to trouble them ; that they 19 might take the city. And they spake against the God of Jerusalem, as against the gods of the people of the earth, 20 which were the work of the hands of man. And for this cause Hezekiah the king, and the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz, 21 prayed and cried to heaven. And Jehovah sent an angel, which cut off all the mighty men of valour, and the leaders and captains, in the camp of the king of Assyria. So he returned with shame of face to his own land. And when he was come into the house of his god, they that came forth of

his own bowels slew him there with the sword. Thus Jehovah saved Hezekiah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem from the hand of Sennacherib the king of Assyria, and from the hand of every one, and guided them on every side. And as many brought gifts unto Jehovah to Jerusalem, and presents to Hezekiah king of Judah : so that he was magnified in the sight of all nations from thenceforth.

In those days Hezekiah was sick to the death, and prayed unto Jehovah : and he spake unto him, and he gave him a sign. But Hezekiah rendered not again according to the benefit done unto him ; for his heart was lifted up : therefore there was wrath upon him, and upon Judah and Jerusalem. Notwithstanding Hezekiah humbled himself for the pride of his heart, both he and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the wrath of Jehovah came not upon them in the days of Hezekiah.

And Hezekiah had exceeding much riches and honour : and he made unto himself treasuries for silver, and for gold, and for precious stones, and for spices, and for shields, and for all manner of pleasant jewels ; storehouses also for the produce of corn, and wine, and oil ; and stalls for all sorts of cattle, and cattle and flocks for the stalls. And he provided for himself cities, and possessions of flocks and herds in abundance : for God had given him exceeding much property. This same Hezekiah also stopped the upper spring of the waters of Gihon, and brought it straight down to the west side of the city of David. And Hezekiah prospered in all his works. Howbeit in the business of the ambassadors of the princes of Babylon, who sent unto him to inquire of the wonder that was done in the land, God left him, to try him, that he might know all that was in his heart.

Now the rest of the acts of Hezekiah, and his goodness, behold they are written in the Vision of Isaiah the Prophet, the Son of Amoz, and in the Book of the Kings of Judah and Israel.

And Hezekiah slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the chief of the sepulchres of the sons of David : and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem did him honour at his death. And Manasseh his son reigned in his stead.

CHAP. XXXIII.—Manasseh was twelve years old when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty-five years in Jerusalem. And he did that which was evil in the sight of Jehovah, like unto the abominations of the heathen, whom Jehovah had

3 cast out before the children of Israel. For he built again the high places which Hezekiah his father had broken down; and he reared up altars for Baal and Ashtoreth, and made images of Ashera, and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served 4 them. Also he built altars in the house of Jehovah, whereof Jehovah had said, "In Jerusalem shall my name be for ever." 5 And he built altars for all the host of heaven in the two courts 6 of the house of Jehovah. And he caused his children to pass through the fire in the valley of the son of Hinnom: also he observed times, and used enchantments, and used witchcraft, and dealt with necromancers, and wizards: he wrought much 7 evil in the sight of Jehovah, to provoke him to anger. And he set a carved image, the idol which he had made, in the house of God, of which God had said to David and to Solomon, his son, "In this house, and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen before all the tribes of Israel, will I put my name for 8 ever: neither will I any more remove the foot of Israel from out of the land which I have appointed for your fathers; provided that they take heed to do all that I have commanded them, according to the old law and the statutes and the ordinances by the hand of Moses." So Manasseh made Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to err, and to do worse than the heathen, whom Jehovah had destroyed before the children 10 of Israel. And Jehovah spake to Manasseh, and to his people: but they would not hearken.

11 Wherefore Jehovah brought upon them the captains of the host of the king of Assyria, who seized Manasseh with grapping hooks, and bound him with fetters, and carried him to 12 Babylon. And when he was in affliction, he besought Jehovah his God, and humbled himself greatly before the God of 13 his fathers, and prayed unto him: and he was intreated of him, and heard his supplication, and brought him again to Jerusalem into his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew 14 that Jehovah he is God. Now after this he built a wall without the city of David, on the west side of Gihon, in the valley, even to the entrance of the fish gate, and compassed about the citadel, and raised it up a very great height, and put captains of war in all the fortified cities of 15 Judah. And he took away the strange gods, and the idol out of the house of Jehovah, and all the altars which he had built in the mount of the house of Jehovah, and in Jerusalem, and 16 cast them out of the city. And he repaired the altar of Jehovah, and sacrificed thereon peace-offerings, and thank-offerings, and commanded Judah to serve Jehovah the God

of Israel. Nevertheless the people sacrificed still on the 17 high places ; *but* only unto Jehovah their God.

Now the rest of the acts of Manasseh, and his prayer unto 18 his God, and the words of the seers who spake to him in the name of Jehovah the God of Israel, behold, they are written in the Book of the Kings of Israel. His prayer also, and 19 *how God* was entreated of him, and all his sins, and his trespass, and the places wherein he built high places, and set up standing pillars and graven images, before he was humbled : behold, they are written in the Sayings of the Seers.

And Manasseh slept with his fathers, and they buried 20 him in his own house : and Amon his son reigned in his stead.

Amon was twenty-two years old when he began to reign, 21 and he reigned two years in Jerusalem. But he did that 22 which was evil in the sight of Jehovah, as did Manasseh his father ; for Amon sacrificed unto all the carved images which Manasseh his father had made, and served them ; and humbled 23 not himself before Jehovah, as Manasseh his father had humbled himself ; but Amon trespassed more and more. 24 And his servants conspired against him, and slew him in his own house. And the people of the land slew all them that 25 had conspired against king Amon ; and the people of the land made Josiah his son king in his stead.

CHAP. XXXIV.—Josiah was eight years old when he began 1 to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem thirty-one years. And 2 he did that which was right in the sight of Jehovah, and walked in the ways of David his father, and declined neither to the right hand, nor to the left. For in the eighth year of his reign, 3 while he was yet young, he began to seek after the God of David his father : and in the twelfth year he began to cleanse Judah and Jerusalem from the high places, and the standing pillars, and the carved images, and the molten statues. And 4 they brake down the altars of Baal and Ashtoreth in his presence ; and the images, that were on high above them, he cut down ; and the standing pillars, and the carved images, and the molten statues, he brake in pieces, and made dust of them, and strowed it upon the graves of them that had sacrificed unto them. And he burnt the bones of the priests upon their altars, 5 and cleansed Judah and Jerusalem. And in the cities of 6 Manasseh, and Ephraim, and Simeon, even unto Napthali, he sought out their temples round about. And when he had 7

broken down the altars and the standing pillars, and had beaten the graven images into powder, and cut down all the idols throughout all the land of Israel, he returned to Jerusalem.

- 8 Now in the eighteenth year of his reign, when he had cleansed the land, and the house, he sent Shaphan the son of Azaliah, and Maaseiah the governor of the city, and Joah the son of Joahaz the remembrancer, to repair the house of Jehovah his God. And when they came to Hilkiah the high priest, they delivered the money that was brought into the house of God, which the Levites who kept the doors had gathered of the hand of Manasseh and Ephraim, and of all the remnant of Israel, and of all Judah and Benjamin ; and they 10 returned to Jerusalem. And they put it in the hand of the workmen who had the oversight of the house of Jehovah, and they gave it to the workmen who wrought in the house of Jehovah, to repair and strengthen the house : even to the artificers and builders they gave it, to buy hewn stone, and timber for couplings, and to roof the chambers which the kings of Judah 12 had destroyed. And the men did the work faithfully : and the overseers of them, Jahath and Obadiah, the Levites, of the sons of Merari, and Zechariah and Meshullam, of the sons of the Kohathites, were appointed to superintend ; and of the 13 Levites all that were skilful on instruments of 'musick'. Also *they were* over the bearers of burdens, and were overseers of all that wrought the work in any manner of service : and of the Levites there were scribes, and officers, and porters.
- 14 And as they were bringing out the money that had been brought into the house of Jehovah, Hilkiah the priest found the book of the law of Jehovah *given* by the hand of Moses.
- 15 And Hilkiah answered and said to Shaphan the Scribe, "I have found the book of the law, in the house of Jehovah."
- 16 And Hilkiah delivered the book to Shaphan. And Shaphan carried the book to the king, and brought the king word back again, saying, "All that was committed to thy servants, they 17 are doing. And they have gathered together the money that was found in the house of Jehovah, and have delivered it into the hand of the overseers, and into the hand of the workmen."
- 18 And Shaphan the secretary told the king, saying, "Hilkiah the priest hath given unto me a book." And Shaphan read it 19 before the king. And it came to pass, when the king had 20 heard the words of the law, that he rent his clothes. And the king commanded Hilkiah, and Ahikam the son of Sha-

phan, and Abdon the son of Micah, and Shaphan the secretary, and Asaiah a servant of the king's, saying, "Go, 21 enquire of Jehovah for me, and for them that are left in Israel and in Judah, concerning the words of the book that is found : for great is the wrath of Jehovah that is poured out upon us, because our fathers have not kept the word of Jehovah, to do after all that is written in this book." And 22 Hilkiah, and *they* whom the king *had appointed*, went to Huldah the prophetess, the wife of Shallum the son of Tikvath, the son of Hasrah, keeper of the wardrobe ; (now she dwelt in Jerusalem in the second district:) and they spake to her to that effect. And she said unto them, "Thus saith Jehovah the 23 God of Israel, 'Tell ye the man who sent you to me, Thus 24 saith Jehovah, Behold, I will bring evil upon this place, and upon the inhabitants thereof, *even* all the curses that are written in the book which they have read before the king of Judah : because they have forsaken me, and have burned incense 25 unto other gods, that they might provoke me to anger with all the works of their hands ; therefore my wrath shall be poured out upon this place, and shall not be quenched.' But 26 as for the king of Judah, who sent you to enquire of Jehovah, so shall ye say unto him, 'Thus saith Jehovah the God of Israel ; as touching the words which thou hast heard, Because 27 thine heart was tender, and thou hast humbled thyself before God, when thou hearest his words against this place, and against the inhabitants thereof, and hast humbled thyself before me, and rent thy clothes, and wept before me ; I also have heard thee,' saith Jehovah. Behold, I will gather thee unto thy fa- 28 thers, and thou shalt be gathered to thy grave in peace, and thine eyes shall not see all the evil which I will bring upon this place, and upon the inhabitants thereof.' So they brought the king word again.

And the king sent and gathered together all the elders of 29 Judah and Jerusalem. And the king went up into the house 30 of Jehovah, and all the men of Judah, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and the priests, and the Levites, and all the people, both great and small : and he read in their hearing all the words of the book of the covenant which was found in the house of Jehovah. And the king stood upon his pedestal, and 31 made a covenant before Jehovah, to walk after Jehovah, and to keep his commandments, and his testimonies, and his statutes, with all his heart, and with all his soul, to perform the words of the covenant which were written in this book. And 32

he caused all that were present in Jerusalem and Benjamin to stand to it. And the inhabitants of Jerusalem did according 33 to the covenant of God, the God of their fathers. And Josiah took away all the abominations out of all the countries that pertained to the children of Israel, and made all that were present in Israel to serve, even to serve Jehovah their God. And all his days they departed not from following Jehovah, the God of their fathers.

- 1 CHAP. XXXV.—And Josiah kept a passover unto Jehovah in Jerusalem : and they killed the passover on the four-
2 teenth day of the first month. And he set the priests over
3 their charges, and encouraged them to the service of the house
of Jehovah, and said unto the Levites who taught all Israel,
and who were consecrated unto Jehovah, “ Put the holy ark
in the house which Solomon the son of David king of Israel
built ; let it not be a burden upon your shoulders : serve now
4 Jehovah your God, and his people Israel, and prepare yourselves
5 by the houses of your fathers, after your courses, according
to the writing of David king of Israel, and according to
the writing of Solomon his son. And stand in the sanctuary
according to the separation of the families of your fathers,
from your brethren the sons of the people ; and after the di-
vision of the families of the Levites. And kill the passover,
6 and sanctify yourselves, and prepare for your brethren, that
they may do according to the word of Jehovah by Moses.”
7 And Josiah gave unto the people, of the flock, lambs and
kids, all for the passover-offerings, for all that were present,
to the number of thirty thousand ; and three thousand
8 bullocks : these were of the king’s property. And his
princes gave willingly unto the people, to the priests, and to
the Levites : Hilkiah and Zechariah and Jehiel, rulers of the
house of God, gave unto the priests for the passover-offerings
two thousand and six hundred lambs and kids, and three
9 hundred oxen. And Conanish also, and Shemaiah and Ne-
thanuel, his brethren, and Hashabiah and Jeiel and Jozabad,
chief of the Levites, gave unto the Levites for passover-offer-
ings five thousand lambs and kids, and five hundred oxen.
10 So the service was prepared, and the priests stood in their
place, and the Levites in their courses, according to the king’s
11 commandment. And they killed the passover, and the priests
sprinkled the blood from their hands, and the Levites flayed
12 the victims. And they removed the burnt-offerings, that they

might permit *the people* according to the divisions of the families of the people, to offer unto Jehovah, as it is written in the book of Moses. And so *did they* on the following day.

And they roasted the passover with fire according to the 13 ordinance : but the *other* holy offerings they seethed in pots, and in caldrons, and in pans, and divided them speedily among all the people. And afterward they made ready for 14 themselves, and for the priests : because the priests the sons of Aaron *were busied* in offering the burnt-offerings and the fat until night ; therefore the Levites prepared for themselves, and for the priests the sons of Aaron. And the singers, the 15 sons of Asaph, were in their place, according to the commandment of David, and Asaph, and Heman, and Jeduthun, the king's seers ; and the porters *waited* at every gate ; they might not depart from their service ; for their brethren the Levites prepared for them. So all the service of Jehovah was pre- 16 pared the same day, to keep the passover, and to offer burnt-offerings upon the altar of Jehovah according to the commandment of king Josiah. And the children of Israel who 17 were present kept the passover at that time, and the feast of unleavened bread seven days. And there was no passover 18 like unto that kept in Israel, from the days of Samuel the prophet ; neither did all the kings of Israel keep such a passover as Josiah kept, with the priests, and the Levites, and all Judah and Israel that were present, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem. In the eighteenth year of the reign of Josiah 19 was this passover kept.

After all this, when Josiah had restored the temple, Necho 20 king of Egypt went up to fight against Charchemish by Euphrates : and Josiah went out against him. But he sent 21 ambassadors to him, saying, "What have I to do with thee, thou king of Judah ? *I come* not against thee this day, but against the nation with which I am at war : for God commanded me to make haste : refrain from meddling with God, who is with me, that he destroy thee not." Nevertheless 22 Josiah would not turn his face from him, but secretly prepared himself to fight with him, and hearkened not unto the words of Necho which came from the mouth of God ; and came to fight in the valley of Megiddo. And the archers shot at 23 king Josiah ; and the king said to his servants, "Take me away ; for I am sore wounded." And his servants took him 24 out of that chariot, and put him in the second chariot that he had ; and they brought him to Jerusalem, and he died,

and was buried in one of the sepulchres of his fathers. And all Judah and Jerusalem mourned for Josiah.

25 And Jeremiah lamented for Josiah : and all the singing men and the singing women spake of Josiah in their dirges to this day, and made them an ordinance in Israel : and behold they are written in the Dirges.

26 The rest of the acts of Josiah, and his goodness, according to that which was written in the law of Jehovah, and his deeds, first and last, behold, they are written in the Book of the Kings of Israel and Judah.

1 CHAP. XXXVI.—And the people of the land took Jehoahaz the son of Josiah, and made him king in his father's stead in Jerusalem. Jehoahaz was twenty-three years old when he began to reign, and he reigned three months in Jerusalem. And the king of Egypt deposed him at Jerusalem, and laid upon the land a fine of one hundred talents of silver and a talent of gold. And the king of Egypt made Eliakim his brother king over Judah and Jerusalem, and changed his name to Jehoiakim. And Necho took Jehoahaz his brother, and carried him to Egypt.

5 Jehoiakim was twenty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem : and he did that which was evil in the sight of Jehovah his God. Against him came up Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and bound him in fetters, to carry him to Babylon. Nebuchadnezzar also carried some of the vessels of the house of Jehovah to Babylon, and put them into his temple at Babylon. Now the rest of the acts of Jehoiakim, and his abominations which he did, and that which was found in him, behold, they are written in the Book of the Kings of Israel and Judah : and Jehoiachin his son reigned in his stead.

9 Jehoiachin was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned three months and ten days in Jerusalem : and he did that which was evil in the sight of Jehovah. And when the year was expired, king Nebuchadnezzar sent and brought him to Babylon, with the goodly vessels of the house of Jehovah, and made Zedekiah his brother king over Judah and Jerusalem.

11 Zedekiah was twenty-one years old when he began to reign,
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and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. And he did that 12 which was evil in the sight of Jehovah his God, and humbled not himself before Jeremiah the prophet *speaking* from the mouth of Jehovah. And he also revolted from king Nebu- 13 chadnezzar, who had made him swear by God: but he stiffened his neck and hardened his heart from turning unto Jehovah the God of Israel.

Moreover all the chief of the priests, and the people, trans- 14 gressed very much, after all the abominations of the heathen; and polluted the house of Jehovah which he had hallowed in Jerusalem. And Jehovah, the God of their fathers, sent to 15 them by his messengers, rising up betimes, and sending; because he had compassion on his people, and on his dwelling-place: but they mocked the messengers of God, and despised 16 his words, and misused his prophets, until the wrath of Jehovah arose against his people, till there was no remedy. Therefore he brought upon them the king of the Chaldees, 17 who slew their young men with the sword in the house of their sanctuary, and had no compassion upon young man or maiden, old man, or him that stooped for age: he gave them all into his hand. And all the vessels of the house of God, great and 18 small, and the treasures of the house of Jehovah, and the treasures of the king, and of his princes; all these he brought to Babylon. And they burnt the house of God, and brake 19 down the wall of Jerusalem, and burnt all the palaces thereof with fire, and destroyed all the goodly vessels thereof. And 20 them that had escaped from the sword he carried away to Babylon; where they were servants to him and to his sons until the rule of the kingdom of Persia: to fulfil the word of 21 Jehovah by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed her sabbaths: for as long as she lay desolate she kept sabbath, to fulfil seventy years.

Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the 22 word of Jehovah *spoken* by the mouth of Jeremiah might be accomplished, Jehovah stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and *put it* also in writing, saying, "Thus saith Cyrus 23 king of Persia, All the kingdoms of the earth hath Jehovah the God of heaven given unto me; and he hath charged me to build him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Who is there among you of all his people? Jehovah his God be with him, and let him go up."

E Z R A.

1 CHAP. I.—Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of Jehovah by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, Jehovah stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, and he made proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and *put it* also in writing, saying, “Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, Jehovah God of heaven hath given me all the kingdoms of the earth; and he hath charged me to build him a house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Who is there among you of all his people? let his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem, which is in Judah, and build the house of Jehovah God of Israel (He is God) which is at Jerusalem. And whosoever remaineth in any place where he sojourneth, let the men of his place help him with silver, and with gold, and with goods, and with beasts, besides the freewill-offering for the house of God which is at Jerusalem.”

5 Then rose up the heads of the fathers of Judah and Benjamin, and the priests, and the Levites, with all whose spirit God stirred up, to go up to build the house of Jehovah which is at Jerusalem. And all they that were about them strengthened their hands with vessels of silver, with gold, with goods, and with beasts, and with precious things, besides all that was willingly offered.

7 And Cyrus the king brought forth the vessels of the house of Jehovah, which Nebuchadnezzar had brought forth out of Jerusalem, and had put into the house of his gods; these did Cyrus king of Persia bring forth by the hand of Mithredath the treasurer; and he numbered them unto Sheshbazzar, 9 the prince of Judah. And this is the number of them: thirty chargers of gold, a thousand chargers of silver, nine

and twenty knives, thirty basons of gold, silver basons of a 10 second sort four hundred and ten, *and* other vessels a thousand. All the vessels of gold and of silver were five thousand and 11 four hundred. All these did Sheshbazzar bring up with the captives that were brought up from Babylon unto Jerusalem.

CHAP. II.—Now these are the children of the province 1 who went up out of the captivity, of them that had been carried away, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried away unto Babylon, and who came again to Jerusalem and Judah, every one unto his city; who came with 2 Zerubbabel: Jeshua, Nehemiah, Seraiah, Reelaiah, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mizpah, Bigvai, Rehum, Baanah.

The number of the men of the people of Israel: the 3 children of Parosh, two thousand a hundred and seventy-two. The children of Shephatiah, three hundred and seventy- 4 two. The children of Arah, seven hundred and seventy- 5 five. The children of Pahath-moab, of the children of Jeshua 6 *and* Joab, two thousand eight hundred and twelve. The 7 children of Elam, a thousand two hundred and fifty-four. The children of Zattu, nine hundred and forty-five. The 9 children of Zaccai, seven hundred and sixty. The chil- 10 dren of Bani, six hundred and forty-two. The children of 11 Bebai, six hundred and twenty-three. The children of Azgad, 12 a thousand two hundred and twenty-two. The children of 13 Adonikam, six hundred and sixty-six. The children of Big- 14 vai, two thousand and fifty-six. The children of Adin, four 15 hundred and fifty-four. The children of Ater of *the family* 16 of Hezekiah, ninety-eight. The children of Bezai, three 17 hundred and twenty-three. The children of Jorah, a hun- 18 dred and twelve. The children of Hashum, two hundred 19 and twenty-three. The children of Gibbar, ninety-five. 20 The children of Beth-lehem, a hundred and twenty-three. 21 The men of Netophah, fifty-six. The men of Anathoth, 22 a hundred and twenty-eight. The children of Azmaveth, 24 forty-two. The children of Kirjath-arim, Chephirah, and 25 Beeroth, seven hundred and forty-three. The children 26 of Ramah and Gaba, six hundred and twenty-one. The 27 men of Michmas, a hundred and twenty-two. The men of 28 Beth-el and Ai, two hundred and twenty-three. The chil- 29 dren of Nebo, fifty-two. The children of Magbish, a hun- 30 dred and fifty-six. The children of the other Elam, a thou- 31 sand two hundred and fifty-four. The children of Harim, 32

33 three hundred and twenty. The children of Lod, Hadid,
34 and Ono, seven hundred and twenty-five. The children of
35 Jericho, three hundred and forty-five. The children of Se-
naah, three thousand six hundred and thirty.

36 The priests: the children of Jedaiah, of the house of
37 Jeshua, nine hundred and seventy-three. The children of
38 Immer, a thousand and fifty-two. The children of Pashur,
39 a thousand two hundred and forty-seven. The children of
Harim, a thousand and seventeen.

40 The Levites: the children of Jeshua and Kadmiel, of the
children of Hodaviah, seventy-four.

41 The singers: the children of Asaph, a hundred and
twenty-eight.

42 The children of the door-keepers: the children of Shallum,
the children of Ater, the children of Talmon, the children of
Akkub, the children of Hatita, the children of Shobai, in
all a hundred and thirty-nine.

43 The Nethinim: the children of Ziha, the children of Ha-
44 supha, the children of Tabbaoth, the children of Keros, the
45 children of Siaha, the children of Padon, the children of
Lebanah, the children of Hagabah, the children of Akkub,
46 the children of Hagab, the children of Shalmai, the children
47 of Hanan, the children of Giddel, the children of Gahar, the
48 children of Reaiah, the children of Rezin, the children of
49 Nekoda, the children of Gazzam, the children of Uzza, the
50 children of Paseah, the children of Besai, the children of
Asnah, the children of Mehunim, the children of Nephusim,
51 the children of Bakbuk, the children of Hakupha, the children
52 of Harhur, the children of Bazluth, the children of Mehida,
53 the children of Harsha, the children of Barkos, the children
54 of Sisera, the children of Thamar, the children of Neziah,
55 the children of Hatipha. The children of Solomon's servants:

the children of Sotai, the children of Sophereth, the children
56 of Peruda, the children of Jaalah, the children of Darkon,
57 the children of Giddel, the children of Shephatiah, the
children of Hattil, the children of Pochereth-Zebaim, the
58 children of Ami. All the Nethinim, and the children of
Solomon's servants, were three hundred and ninety-two.

59 And these are they who went up from Tel-melah, Tel-harsa,
Cherub, Addan, and Immer; but they could not show their
father's house, nor their descent, whether they were of Israel:
60 the children of Delaiah, the children of Tobiah, the children
61 of Nekoda, six hundred and fifty-two. And of the children

of the priests : the children of Habaiah, the children of Hako^z, the children of Barzillai ; who took a wife of the daughters of Barzillai the Gileadite, and was called after their name : these sought their genealogical registers, but they were not ⁶² found ; therefore were they, as polluted, put from the priesthood. And the deputy said unto them, that they should ⁶³ not eat of the most holy things, till there stood up a priest with Urim and with Thummim.

The whole congregation together was forty-two thousand ⁶⁴ three hundred and sixty, besides their man-servants and their ⁶⁵ maid-servants ; these were seven thousand three hundred and thirty-seven ; and among them were two hundred singing men and singing women. Their horses were seven hundred ⁶⁶ and thirty-six ; their mules, two hundred and forty-five ; their camels, four hundred and thirty-five ; their asses, six ⁶⁷ thousand seven hundred and twenty.

And the heads of the fathers, when they came to the house ⁶⁸ of Jehovah which is at Jerusalem, offered freely for the house of God to set it up in its place : they gave after their ability ⁶⁹ unto the treasure of the work sixty-one thousand daries of gold, and five thousand manehs of silver, and one hundred priests' garments.

So the priests, and the Levites, and the people, and the ⁷⁰ singers, and the door-keepers, and the Nethinim, dwelt in their cities, even all Israel in their cities.

CHAP. III.—And when the seventh month was come, ¹ and the children of Israel were in the cities, the people gathered themselves together as one man to Jerusalem. Then ² stood up Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and his brethren the priests, and Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and his brethren, and built the altar of the God of Israel, to offer burnt-offerings thereon, as it is written in the law of Moses the man of God.

And they fixed the altar upon its bases ; for fear was upon ³ them because of the people of those countries ; and they offered burnt-offerings thereon unto Jehovah, burnt-offerings morning and evening. They kept also the feast of tabernacles, ⁴ as it is written, and offered the daily burnt-offerings by number, according to the custom, as the duty of every day required ; and afterwards *offered* the continual burnt-offering, both of ⁵ the new moons, and of all the set feasts of Jehovah that were kept holy, and of every one that presented a freewill-

- 6 offering unto Jehovah. From the first day of the seventh month they began to offer burnt-offerings unto Jehovah. But the foundation of the temple of Jehovah was not *yet* laid.
- 7 They gave money also unto the masons, and to the carpenters ; and meat, and drink, and oil, to the Zidonians, and to the Tyrians, to bring cedar wood from Lebanon to the sea at Joppa, according to the permission that they had of Cyrus king of Persia.
- 8 Now in the second year of their coming unto the house of God at Jerusalem, in the second month, began Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and the rest of their brethren the priests and the Levites, and all they that were come out of the captivity unto Jerusalem ; and appointed the Levites, from twenty years old and upward, to
- 9 superintend the work of the house of Jehovah. Then stood Jeshua, his sons and his brethren, Kadmiel and his sons, the sons of Judah, together, to superintend the workmen in the house of God ; *as did* the sons of Henadad, their sons, and their brethren the Levites.
- 10 And when the builders laid the foundation of the temple of Jehovah, they set the priests in their apparel with trumpets, and the Levites the sons of Asaph with cymbals, to praise
- 11 Jehovah, after the ordinance of David king of Israel. And they sang responsively, praising and giving thanks unto Jehovah, that he is good, that his mercy *endureth* for ever towards Israel. And all the people shouted with a great shout, when they praised Jehovah, because the foundation of the
- 12 house of Jehovah was laid. And many of the priests and Levites and heads of the fathers, aged men, who had seen the first house, when the foundation of this house was laid before their eyes, wept with a loud voice ; and many shouted
- 13 aloud for joy : so that the people could not discern the noise of the shout of joy from the noise of the weeping of the people ; for the people shouted with a great shout, and the noise was heard afar off.
- 1 CHAP. IV.—Now when the adversaries of Judah and Benjamin heard that the children of the captivity were building the temple unto Jehovah God of Israel, then they came to Zerubbabel, and to the heads of the fathers, and said unto them, “ Let us build with you ; for we seek your God, as ye do ; and we have sacrificed unto him since the days of Esar-haddon king of Assyria, who brought us up hither.” But

Zerubbabel, and Jeshua, and the rest of the heads of the fathers of Israel, said unto them, "Ye cannot join with us to build a house unto our God; but we ourselves together will build unto Jehovah God of Israel, as king Cyrus the king of Persia hath commanded us."

Then the people of the land weakened the hands of the 4 people of Judah, and terrified them in building, and hired 5 advocates against them, to frustrate their purpose, all the days of Cyrus king of Persia, even until the reign of Darius king of Persia.

And in the reign of Ahasuerus, in the beginning of his 6 reign, they wrote *unto him* an accusation against the inhabitants of Judah and Jerusalem. And in the days of Artaxerxes 7 wrote Bishlam, Mithredath, Tabeel, and the rest of their companions, unto Artaxerxes king of Persia; and the writing of the letter was written in Aramaic *characters* and translated into the Aramaic tongue. Rehum the chancellor and Shim- 8 shai the scribe wrote a letter against Jerusalem to Artaxerxes the king in this form: then *wrote* Rehum the chancellor, and 9 Shimshai the scribe, and the rest of their companions, the Dinaites, the Apharsathchites, the Tarpelites, the Apharsites, the Archevites, the Babylonians, the Susanchites, the Dehavites, *and the Elamites*, and the rest of the peoples whom 10 the great and noble Asnapper brought over, and settled in the city of Samaria, and the rest on this side the river, and so forth.

This is the copy of the letter that they sent unto him, *even* 11 unto Artaxerxes the king; "Thy servants the men on this side the river, and so forth. Be it known unto the king, that the 12 Jews who came up from thee to us are come *unto* Jerusalem, building the rebellious and wicked city, and they are completing the walls *thereof*, and repairing the foundations. Be 13 it known now unto the king, that if this city be built, and the walls completed, they will not pay toll, tribute, and custom, and in the end thou wilt bring loss upon the kings. Now inas- 14 much as we have maintenance from the palace, and it was not meet for us to see the king's damage, therefore have we sent and informed the king; that search may be made in the book 15 of the records of thy fathers: so shalt thou find in the book of the records, and know that this city is a rebellious city, and one that bringeth loss upon kings and provinces, and that they have wrought sedition within the same of old time; for which cause was this city destroyed. We inform the king, 16

that, if this city be built, and the walls thereof completed, by this means thou wilt have no portion on this side the river.”

17 Then the king sent an answer unto Rehum the chancellor, and Shimshai the scribe, and the rest of their companions that dwelt in Samaria, and unto the rest beyond the river; “Peace, and so forth. The letter which ye sent unto us hath been plainly read before me. And I commanded, and search hath been made, and it is found that this city of old time hath made insurrection against kings, and that rebellion and sedition have been wrought therein. There have been mighty kings also over Jerusalem, who have ruled over all *countries* beyond the river; and toll, tribute, and custom, were paid unto them. Give ye now commandment to cause these men to cease, and that this city be not built until the commandment shall be given from me. Take heed now that ye fail not to do this: why should the mischief grow to bring loss upon the kings ?”

23 Now when the copy of the letter of Artaxerxes the king, was read before Rehum, and Shimshai the scribe, and their companions, they went up in haste to Jerusalem unto the Jews, and made them to cease by force and power. Then ceased the work of the house of God which is at Jerusalem. So it ceased unto the second year of the reign of Darius king of Persia.

1 CHAP. V.—Then the prophets, Haggai the prophet, and Zechariah the son of Iddo, prophesied unto the Jews who were in Judah and Jerusalem, in the name of the God of Israel. Then rose up Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and began to build the house of God which is at Jerusalem; and with them were the prophets of God helping them.

3 At the same time came to them Tatnai, governor on this side the river, and Shethar-boznai, and their companions, and said thus unto them, “Who hath commanded you to build this house, and to complete this wall ?” Then we told them, in like manner, what were the names of the men who were building this building. But the eye of their God was upon the elders of the Jews, that they could not cause them to cease, till the matter came to Darius; and then they returned answer by letter concerning this.

6 The copy of the letter which Tatnai, governor on this side

the river, and Shethar-boznai, and his companions the Apharsachites, who were on this side the river, sent unto Darius the king : they sent a letter unto him, wherein was written 7 thus ; “ Unto Darius the king, all peace. Be it known unto 8 the king, that we went into the province of Judea, to the house of the great God ; and it is being built with great stones, and timber is laid in the walls, and this work goeth fast on, and prospereth in their hands. Then we asked those elders, and 9 said unto them thus, ‘ Who commanded you to build this house, and to complete these walls ? ’ We asked their names also, to inform thee, that we might write the names of the 10 men that are the chief of them. And thus they returned 11 us answer, saying, ‘ We are the servants of the God of heaven and earth, and rebuild the house that was built these many years ago, which a great king of Israel built and completed. But after that our fathers had provoked the God of 12 heaven unto wrath, he gave them into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, the Chaldee, who destroyed this house, and carried the people away into Babylon. But in the first year of Cyrus the king of Babylon, 13 Cyrus the king made a decree to build this house of God. And the vessels also of gold and silver of the house of God, 14 which Nebuchadnezzar took out of the temple which was at Jerusalem, and brought into the temple of Babylon, those did Cyrus the king take out of the temple of Babylon, and they were delivered unto one named Sheshbazzar, whom he had made governor ; and he said unto him, Take these 15 vessels, go, carry them into the temple which is at Jerusalem, and let the house of God be built in its place. Then came 16 the same Sheahbazzar, and laid the foundation of the house of God which is at Jerusalem ; and since that time even until now hath it been in building, and yet it is not finished.’ Now therefore, if it seem good to the king, let there be search 17 made in the king’s treasure-house, which is there at Babylon, whether it be so, that a decree was made by Cyrus the king to build this house of God at Jerusalem, and let the king send his pleasure to us concerning this.”

CHAP. VI.—Then Darius the king made a decree, and 1 search was made in the house of the writings, where the treasures were laid up in Babylon. And there was found at Ach- 2 metha, in the palace which is in the province of the Medes, a roll, and therein was a record thus written :

- 3 “ In the first year of Cyrus the king, Cyrus the king made a decree concerning the house of God at Jerusalem, ‘ Let the house be built where they offered sacrifices, and the foundations thereof laid ; the height thereof sixty cubits, and the breadth thereof sixty cubits ; with three layers of great stones, and a layer of new timber ; and let the expenses be given out of the king’s house : and also let the golden and silver vessels of the house of God, which Nebuchadnezzar took out of the temple which is at Jerusalem, and brought unto Babylon, be restored, and go unto the temple which is at Jerusalem, *every one* to its place, and lay them up in the house of God.’ Now therefore, Tatnai governor beyond the river, Shethar-boznai, and your companions the Apharsachites, which are beyond the river, be ye far from thence : let the work of this house of God alone ; let the governor of the Jews and the elders of the Jews build this house of God in its place. Moreover I make a decree what ye shall do to the elders of these Jews for the building of this house of God : that of the king’s goods, *even* of the tribute beyond the river, forthwith expenses be given unto these men, that they be not hindered. And that which they have need of, both young bullocks, and rams, and lambs, for the burnt-offerings of the God of heaven, wheat, salt, wine, and oil, according to the appointment of the priests which are at Jerusalem, let it be given them day by day without fail : that they may offer acceptable sacrifices unto the God of heaven, and pray for the life of the king, and of his sons. I have also made a decree, that whosoever shall alter this command, let timber be pulled down from his house, and being set up, let him be fastened thereon ; and let his house be made a dunghill for this. And the God who hath caused his name to dwell there overthrow all kings and people, that shall put forth their hand to alter and to destroy this house of God which is at Jerusalem. I Darius have made a decree ; let it be done forthwith.”
- 13 Then Tatnai, governor on this side the river, Shethar-boznai, and their companions, according to that which Darius the king had sent, so they did forthwith.
- 14 And the elders of the Jews built, and they prospered through the prophesying of Haggai the prophet and Zechariah the son of Iddo. And they built, and completed it, according to the commandment of the God of Israel, and according to the decree of Cyrus, and Darius, and Artaxerxes, 15 kings of Persia. And this house was finished on the third

day of the month Adar, which was in the sixth year of the reign of Darius the king.

And the children of Israel, the priests, and the Levites, ¹⁶ and the rest of the children of the captivity, kept the dedication of this house of God with joy, and offered at the dedication of this house of God a hundred bullocks, two hundred rams, four hundred lambs; and for a sin-offering for all Israel, twelve he-goats, according to the number of the tribes of Israel. And they set the priests in their divisions, ¹⁷ and the Levites in their courses, for the service of God, which is at Jerusalem; as it is written in the book of Moses.

And the children of the captivity kept the passover upon ¹⁸ the fourteenth day of the first month. For the priests and ¹⁹ the Levites purified themselves as one man; all of them were pure; and they killed the passover for all the children of the captivity, and for their brethren the priests, and for themselves. And the children of Israel, who were come ²⁰ back out of captivity, and all such as had separated themselves unto them from the uncleanness of the heathen of the land, to seek Jehovah God of Israel, did eat, and kept the ²¹ feast of unleavened bread seven days with joy: for Jehovah had made them joyful, and turned the heart of the king of Assyria unto them, to strengthen their hands in the work of the house of God, the God of Israel.

CHAP. VII.—Now after these things, in the reign of ¹ Artaxerxes king of Persia, Ezra the son of Seraiah, the son of Azariah, the son of Hilkiah, the son of Shallum, the son ² of Zadok, the son of Ahitub, the son of Amariah, the son of ³ Azariah, the son of Meraioth, the son of Zerahiah, the son ⁴ of Uzzi, the son of Bukki, the son of Abishua, the son of ⁵ Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the chief priest; this Ezra went up from Babylon; and he was a ready ⁶ scribe in the law of Moses, which Jehovah God of Israel had given: and the king granted him all his request, according to the hand of Jehovah his God upon him. And there went ⁷ up some of the children of Israel, and of the priests, and the Levites, and the singers, and the door-keepers, and the Nethinim, unto Jerusalem, in the seventh year of Artaxerxes the king. And he came to Jerusalem in the fifth month, which was in ⁸ the seventh year of the king. For upon the first day of the ⁹ first month he began to go up from Babylon, and on the first day of the fifth month he came to Jerusalem, according to the

o good hand of his God upon him. For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of Jehovah, and to do it, and to teach in Israel statutes and judgments.

11 Now this is the copy of the letter which the king Artaxerxes gave unto Ezra the priest, the scribe, a scribe of the words of the commandments of Jehovah, and of his statutes to Israel :

12 "Artaxerxes, king of kings, unto Ezra the priest, a scribe of the law of the God of heaven perfectly learned, and so forth. I have made a decree, that all they of the people of Israel, and their priests and Levites, in my realm, who offer themselves willingly to go up to Jerusalem, go with thee.

14 Forasmuch as thou art sent by the king, and his seven counsellors, to inquire concerning Judah and Jerusalem, according
15 to the law of thy God which is in thy hand ; and to carry the silver and gold, which the king and his counsellors have freely offered unto the God of Israel, whose habitation is in Jerusalem, and all the silver and gold that thou canst find in all the province of Babylon, with the freewill-offering of the people, and of the priests, offering willingly for the house of
17 their God which is in Jerusalem : that thou mayest forthwith buy with this money bullocks, rams, lambs, with their meal-offerings and their drink-offerings, and present them upon the
18 altar of the house of your God which is in Jerusalem. And whatsoever shall seem good to thee, and to thy brethren, to do with the rest of the silver and the gold, that do after the
19 will of your God. The vessels also which are given thee for the service of the house of thy God, deliver thou before
20 God at Jerusalem. And whatsoever more shall be needful for the house of thy God, which it shall occur to thee to
21 bestow, bestow it out of the king's treasure-house. And I,
I Artaxerxes the king, do make a decree to all the treasurers which are beyond the river, that whatsoever Ezra the priest, the scribe of the law of the God of heaven, shall
22 require of you, it be done forthwith, unto a hundred talents of silver, and to a hundred measures of wheat, and to a hundred baths of wine, and to a hundred baths of oil, and salt
23 at will. Whatsoever is commanded by the God of heaven, let it be carefully done for the house of the God of heaven ; for why should there be wrath against the realm of the king
24 and his sons ? We also make known to you, that touching any of the priests and Levites, singers, door-keepers, Nethinim, or ministers of this house of God, it shall not be

lawful to impose toll, tribute, or custom, upon them. And as thou, Ezra, after the wisdom of thy God, which is in thy hand, appoint magistrates and judges, who may judge all the people that are beyond the river, all such as know the laws of thy God ; and teach ye them that know them not. And whosoever will not do the law of thy God, and the law ²⁵ of the king, let judgment be executed forthwith upon him, whether it be unto death or to banishment, or to confiscation of goods, or to imprisonment."

Blessed be Jehovah God of our fathers, who hath put this ²⁷ into the king's heart, to beautify the house of Jehovah which is in Jerusalem ; and hath extended mercy unto me before ²⁸ the king and his counsellors, and before all the king's mighty princes. And I was strengthened as the hand of Jehovah my God was upon me, and I gathered together out of Israel chief men to go up with me.

CHAP. VIII.—And these are the heads of their fathers, with ¹ the genealogy of them that went up with me from Babylon, in the reign of Artaxerxes the king. Of the sons of Phine- ² has, Gershom ; of the sons of Ithamar, Daniel ; of the sons of David, Hattush. Of the sons of Shechaniah (of the sons ³ of Pharosh), Zechariah ; and with him were reckoned by genealogy of the males a hundred and fifty. Of the sons of ⁴ Pahath-moab, Elihoenai the son of Zeraiah, and with him two hundred males. Of the sons of Shechaniah, the son of ⁵ Jahaziel, and with him three hundred males. And of the ⁶ sons of Adin, Ebed the son of Jonathan, and with him fifty males. And of the sons of Elam, Jeshaiyah the son of Atha- ⁷ liyah, and with him seventy males. And of the sons of ⁸ Shephatiah, Zebadiah the son of Michael, and with him eighty males. Of the sons of Joab, Obadiah the son of ⁹ Jehiel, and with him two hundred and eighteen males. And ¹⁰ of the sons of Shelomith, the son of Josiphiah, and with him a hundred and sixty males. And of the sons of Bebai, ¹¹ Zechariah the son of Bebai, and with him twenty-eight males. And of the sons of Azgad, Johanan the son of ¹² Hakkatan, and with him a hundred and ten males. And of ¹³ the last sons of Adonikam, whose names are these, Eliphelet, Jeiel, and Shemaiah, and with them sixty males. And of ¹⁴ the sons of Bigvai, Uthai, and Zabbud, and with them seventy males.

And I gathered them together to the river that runneth to ¹⁵

Ahava ; and we encamped there in tents three days : and I viewed the people, and the priests, and found there none of the 16 sons of Levi. Then I sent for Eliezer, for Ariel, for Shemaiah, and for Elnathan, and for Jarib, and for Elnathan, and for Nathan, and for Zechariah, and for Meshullam, chief men ; 17 also for Joiarib, and for Elnathan, discerning men. And I sent them with commandment unto Iddo the chief at the place Casiphia, and I told them what they should say unto Iddo, and to his brethren the Nethinim, at the place Casiphia, that they should bring unto us ministers for the house of our God. 18 And by the good hand of our God upon us they brought us a man of understanding, of the sons of Mahli, the son of Levi, the son of Israel ; and Sherebiah with his sons and his 19 brethren, eighteen ; and Hasabiah, and with him Jeshaiah of 20 the sons of Merari, his brethren and their sons, twenty ; also of the Nethinim, whom David and the princes had appointed for the service of the Levites, two hundred and twenty Nethinim : all of them were distinguished by name.

21 Then I proclaimed a fast there, at the river of Ahava, that we might afflict ourselves before our God, to seek of him a right way for us, and for our little ones, and for all our substance. 22 For I was ashamed to require of the king a band of soldiers and horsemen to help us against the enemy on the way : because we had spoken unto the king, saying, "The hand of our God is upon all them for good that seek him ; but his power and his wrath is against all them that forsake him." 23 So we fasted and besought our God for this ; and he was entreated of us.

24 Then I separated twelve of the chiefs of the priests, 25 Sherebiah, Hashabiah, and ten of their brethren with them, and weighed unto them the silver, and the gold, and the vessels, the offering of the house of our God, which the king, and his counsellors, and his princes, 26 and all Israel there present had offered ; and I weighed into their hand six hundred and fifty talents of silver, and silver vessels a hundred talents, and of gold a hundred 27 talents ; also twenty basons of gold, worth a thousand darics ; 28 and two vessels of fine copper, precious as gold. And I said unto them, "Ye are holy unto Jehovah ; the vessels are holy also ; and the silver and the gold are a freewill-offering unto 29 Jehovah God of your fathers. Be watchful, and guard them, until ye weigh them before the chiefs of the priests and the Levites, and chiefs of the fathers of Israel, at Jerusalem,

in the chambers of the house of Jehovah." So the priests ³⁰ and the Levites took the weight of the silver and the gold, and the vessels, to bring them to Jerusalem unto the house of our God.

Then we departed from the river of Ahava on the twelfth ³¹ day of the first month, to go unto Jerusalem: and the hand of our God was upon us, and he delivered us from the hand of the enemy, and of such as lay in wait by the way. And ³² we came to Jerusalem, and abode there three days. Now on ³³ the fourth day we weighed the silver and the gold and the vessels in the house of our God by the hand of Meremoth the son of Uriah the priest; and with him was Eleazar the son of Phinehas; and with them were Jozabad the son of Jeshua, and Noadiah the son of Binnui, the Levites; every-³⁴ thing by number and by weight; and all the weight was written at that time.

Then the children of them that had been carried away, ³⁵ who were come out of the captivity, offered burnt-offerings unto the God of Israel, twelve bullocks for all Israel, ninety-six rams, seventy-seven lambs, twelve he-goats for a sin-offering; all as a burnt-offering unto Jehovah. And they ³⁶ delivered the king's commands unto the king's lieutenants, and to the governors on this side the river; and they furthered the people, and the house of God.

CHAP. IX.—Now when these things were done, the chief men came to me, saying, "The people of Israel, and the priests, and the Levites, have not separated themselves from the people of the lands, *doing* according to their abominations,—the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Jebusites, the Ammonites, the Moabites, the Egyptians, and the Amorites. For they have taken of their daughters for themselves, and for their sons; so that the holy seed have mingled themselves with the people of the lands; yea, the hand of the chief men and rulers hath been first in this transgression." And when I heard this thing, I rent my garment and my mantle, and plucked hair from my head and my beard, and sat down astonished. Then were assembled unto me every one that revered the words of the God of Israel, because of the transgression of those that had been carried away; and I sat astonished until the evening sacrifice.

And at the evening sacrifice I arose up from my affliction; and with my garment and my mantle rent, I fell upon my

6 knees, and spread out my hands unto Jehovah my God, and said,

“O my God, I am ashamed and blush to lift up my face to thee, my God; for our iniquities are increased over our head, and our guilt is grown up unto the heavens. Since the days of our fathers have we been in great guilt unto this day; and for our iniquities have we, our kings, and our priests, been delivered into the hand of the kings of the lands, to the sword, to captivity, and to spoiling, and to confusion of face, as it is this day. And now for a little space grace hath been showed from Jehovah, our God, to leave us a remnant to escape, and to give us an abode in his holy place, that our God may lighten our eyes, and give us a little reviving in our bondage. For bondmen we were; yet our God hath not forsaken us in our bondage, but hath extended mercy unto us in the sight of the kings of Persia, to give us a reviving, to set up the house of our God, and to repair the desolations thereof, and to give us a wall in Judah and in Jerusalem. And now, O our God, what shall we say after this? for we have forsaken thy commandments, which thou hast commanded by thy servants the prophets, saying, ‘The land, unto which ye go to possess it, is a land of impurity, through the impurity of the peoples of the land, with their abominations, who have filled it from one end to another with their uncleanness. Now therefore give not your daughters unto their sons, neither take their daughters unto your sons, nor seek their peace or their wealth for ever; that ye may be strong, and eat the good of the land, and leave it for an inheritance to your children for ever.’ And after all that is come upon us for our evil deeds, and for our great guilt, seeing that thou our God hast punished us less than our iniquities deserve, and hast given us such deliverance as this; should we again break thy commandments, and join in marriage with the people of these abominations? Wouldest not thou be angry with us till thou hadst consumed us, so that there should be no remnant nor escaping? O Jehovah God of Israel, thou art righteous; for we yet remain escaped, as it is this day: behold, we are before thee in our guilt; for we cannot stand before thee because of this.”

CHAP. X.—Now when Ezra had prayed, and when he had confessed, weeping and casting himself down before the house of God, there gathered together unto him out of Israel

a very great congregation of men and women and children ; for the people wept very much. And Shechaniah the son of Jehiel, one of the sons of Elam, answered and said unto Ezra, "We have transgressed against our God, and have taken strange wives of the people of the land ; yet now there is hope in Israel concerning this thing. Now therefore let us make a covenant with our God, to put away all the wives, and such as are born of them, according to the counsel of my lord, and of those that tremble at the commandment of our God ; and let it be done according to the law. Arise ; for *this matter belongeth unto thee* ; we also *will be with thee* ; be of good courage, and do it."

Then arose Ezra, and made the chief of the priests, of the Levites, and of all Israel, to swear that they would do according to this word. And they sware. Then Ezra rose up from before the house of God, and went into the chamber of Johanan the son of Eliashib : and he came thither ; he did eat no bread, nor drink water ; for he mourned because of the transgression of them that had been carried away. And they made proclamation throughout Judah and Jerusalem unto all the children of the captivity, that they should gather themselves together unto Jerusalem ; and that whosoever would not come within three days, according to the counsel of the chief men and the elders, all his substance should be forfeited, and himself separated from the congregation of them that had been carried away.

Then all the men of Judah and Benjamin gathered themselves together unto Jerusalem within three days. It was the ninth month, on the twentieth day of the month ; and all the people sat in the open space of the house of God, trembling because of this matter, and for the heavy rain. And Ezra the priest stood up, and said unto them, "Ye have transgressed, and have taken strange wives, to increase the guilt of Israel. Now therefore make confession unto Jehovah God of your fathers, and do his pleasure ; and separate yourselves from the people of the land, and from the strange wives."

Then all the congregation answered and said with a loud voice, "As thou hast said, so must we do. But the people are many, and it is a time of much rain, and we are not able to stand without, neither is *this* a work of one day or two : for we are many who have offended in this thing. Let now our chief men of all the congregation stand, and let all those

who have taken strange wives in our cities come at stated times, and with them the elders of every city, and the judges thereof, until the fierce wrath of our God for this matter be turned from us." Only Jonathan the son of Asahel and Jahaziah the son of Tikvah stood up against this; and Meshullam and Shabbethai the Levite helped them. But the children of the captivity did so.

And Ezra the priest, *with* certain heads of the fathers, after the house of their fathers, and all of them by their names, were separated, and sat down in the first day of the tenth month to examine the matter. And they made an end with all the men that had taken strange wives by the first day of the first month. And among the sons of the priests there were found that had taken strange wives; of the sons of Jeshua the son of Jozodak, and his brethren, Maaseiah, Eliezer, and Jarib, and Gedaliah. And they gave their hands that they would put away their wives; and being guilty, *they offered* a ram of the flock for their guilt. And of the sons of Immer; Hanani, and Zebadiah. And of the sons of Harim; Maaseiah, and Elijah, and Shemaiah, and Jehiel, and Uzziah. And of the sons of Pashur; Elioenai, Maaseiah, Ishmael, Nethaneel, Jozabad, and Elasar. Also of the Levites; Jozabad, and Shimei, and Kelaiah (the same is Kelita), Pethahiah, Judah, and Eliezer. Of the singers also; Eliashib: and of the door-keepers; Shallum, and Telem, and Uri. Moreover of Israel: of the sons of Parosh; Ramiah, and Jeziyah, and Malchiah, and Miamin, and Eleazar, and Malchijah, and Benaiah. And of the sons of Elam; Mattaniah, Zechariah, and Jehiel, and Abdi, and Jeremoth, and Elijah. And of the sons of Zattu; Elioenai, Eliashib, Mattaniah, and Jeremoth, and Zabad, and Aziza. Of the sons also of Bebai; Jehohanan, Hananiah, Zabbai, Athlai. And of the sons of Bani; Meshullam, Malluch, and Adaiah, Jashub, and Sheal, and Ramoth. And of the sons of Pahath-moab; Adna, and Chelal, Benaiah, Maaseiah, Mattaniah, Bezaleel, and Binnui, and Manasseh. And of the sons of Harim; Eliezer, Ishijah, Malchiah, Shemaiah, Shimneon, Benjamin, Malluch, Shemariah. Of the sons of Hashum; Mattenai, Mattathah, Zabad, Eliphelet, Jeremai, Manasseh, Shimei. Of the sons of Bani; Maadai, Amram, and Uel, Benaiah, Bedeiah, Chelluh, Vaniah, Meremoth, Eliashib, Mattaniah, Mattenai, and Jaasau, and Bani, and Bin-nui, Shimei, and Shelemiah, and Nathan, and Adaiah, Mach-

nadebai, Shashai, Sharai, Azareel, and Shelemiah, Shemariah,⁴¹ Shallum, Amariah, Joseph. Of the sons of Nebo; Jeiel,⁴² Mattithiah, Zabad, Zebina, Jadau, and Joel, Benaiah. All⁴³ these had taken strange wives; and some of them had wives by whom they had children.

NEHEMIAH.

1 CHAP. I.—The words of Nehemiah the son of Hachaliah.

2 And it came to pass in the month Chislev, in the
3 twentieth year, as I was in Shusau the palace, that Hanani,
one of my brethren, came, he and *certain* men of Judah ; and
I asked them concerning the Jews that had escaped, who
3 were left of the captivity, and concerning Jerusalem. And
they said unto me, “The remnant that are left of the captivity
there in the province are in great affliction and reproach : the
wall of Jerusalem also is broken down, and the gates thereof
are burned with fire.”

4 And it came to pass, when I heard these words, that I sat
down and wept, and mourned *some* days, and fasted, and
5 prayed before the God of heaven, and said, “I beseech thee,
O Jehovah God of heaven, the great and terrible God, that
keepeth covenant and mercy for them that love him and keep
6 his commandments ; let thine ear now be attentive, and thine
eyes open, that thou mayest hear the prayer of thy servant,
which I pray before thee now, day and night, for the children
of Israel thy servants, and *while I* confess the sins of the
children of Israel, which we have sinned against thee ; *which*
7 both I and my father’s house have sinned. We have dealt
very corruptly against thee, and have not kept the command-
ments, nor the statutes, nor the judgments, which thou com-
8 mandedst thy servant Moses. Remember, I beseech thee,
the word that thou commandedst thy servant Moses, saying,
‘*If ye transgress, I will scatter you abroad among the nations :*
9 but *if ye turn unto me, and keep my commandments, and do*
them ; though they were of you cast out unto the uttermost
part of the heaven, *yet will I gather them from thence, and will*
bring them unto the place that I have chosen, to let my name

dwell there." Now these are thy servants and thy people, 10 whom thou hast redeemed by thy great power, and by thy strong hand. O Lord, I beseech thee, let now thine ear be 11 attentive to the prayer of thy servant, and to the prayer of thy servants, who desire to fear thy name ; and prosper, I pray thee, thy servant this day, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man."

Now I was the king's cupbearer :

CHAP. II.—And it came to pass in the month Nisan, in 1 the twentieth year of Artaxerxes the king, that wine was before him ; and I took up the wine, and gave it unto the king. Now I had not *before* been sad in his presence. Wherefore 2 the king said unto me, "Why is thy countenance sad, seeing thou art not sick ? this is nothing but sorrow of heart." Then I was very sore afraid, and said unto the king, "Let 3 the king live for ever : why should not my countenance be sad, when the city, the place of my father's sepulchres, *lieth* waste, and the gates thereof are consumed with fire ?"

Then the king said unto me, "For what dost thou make 4 request ?" So I prayed to the God of heaven. And I said 5 unto the king, "If it please the king, and if thy servant have found favour in thy sight, that thou wouldest send me unto Judah, unto the city of my fathers' sepulchres, that I may build it."

And the king said unto me (the queen also sitting by 6 him), "For how long shall thy journey be ? and when wilt thou return ?" So it pleased the king to send me ; and I proposed to him a time. Moreover I said unto the king, "If it 7 please the king, let letters be given me to the governors beyond the river, that they may allow me to pass till I come into Judah ; and a letter unto Asaph the keeper of the king's forest, that 8 he may give me timber to make beams for the gates of the palace which is by the temple, and for the wall of the city, and for the house that I shall enter into." And the king granted me, according to the good hand of my God upon me.

Then I came to the governors beyond the river, and gave 9 them the king's letters. Now the king had sent captains of the army and horsemen with me. When Sanballat the Ho- 10 ronite, and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, heard of it, it grieved them exceedingly that there was come a man to seek the welfare of the children of Israel.

So I came to Jerusalem, and was there three days. And 11

12 I arose in the night, I and a few men with me ; neither told I any man what my God had put into my heart to do for Jerusalem ; neither was there any beast with me, save the beast
13 that I rode upon. And I went out by night by the gate of the valley, even before the dragon well, and to the dung gate, and viewed the walls of Jerusalem, which were broken down,
14 and the gates thereof were consumed with fire. Then I went on to the gate of the fountain, and to the king's pool ; but there was no place for the beast that was under me to pass.
15 Then went I up in the night by the brook, and viewed the wall, and turned back, and entered by the gate of the valley, and returned.

16 And the rulers knew not whether I went, or what I did ; neither had I as yet told it to the Jews, nor to the priests, nor to the nobles, nor to the rulers, nor to the rest that did
17 the work. Then said I unto them, "Ye see the distress that we are in, how Jerusalem *heth* waste, and the gates thereof are burned with fire ; come, and let us build up the wall of
18 Jerusalem, that we be no more a reproach." Then I told them of the hand of my God which was good upon me ; as also the king's words which he had spoken unto me. And they said, "Let us rise up and build." So they strengthened their hands for *this* good work.

19 But when Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, and Geshem the Arabian, heard it, they laughed us to scorn, and despised us, and said, "What is this thing
20 that ye do ? Will ye rebel against the king ?" Then answered I them, and said unto them, "The God of heaven, he will prosper us ; therefore we his servants will arise and build : but ye have no portion, nor right, nor memorial, in Jerusalem."

1 CHAP. III.—Then Eliashib the high priest rose up with his brethren the priests, and they built the sheep gate ; they sanctified it, and set up the doors of it ; even unto the tower of Meah they sanctified it, unto the tower of Hananeel.
2 And next unto him built the men of Jericho. And next to them built Zaccur the son of Iari.

3 But the fish gate did the sons of Hassenaah build ; they laid the beams thereof, and set up the doors thereof, the locks
4 thereof, and the bars thereof. And next unto them repaired Meremoth the son of Urijah, the son of Koz. And next unto them repaired Meshullam the son of Berechiah, the son of Meshezabeel. And next unto them repaired Zadok the

son of Baana. And next unto them the Tekoites repaired ; 5 but their nobles put not their necks to the work of their Lord.

Moreover the old gate repaired Jehoiada the son of Pasea, 6 and Meshullam the son of Besodeiah ; they laid the beams thereof, and set up the doors thereof, and the locks thereof, and the bars thereof. And next unto them repaired Melatiah 7 the Gibeonite, and Jadon the Meronothite, the men of Gibeon, and of Mizpah, unto the tribunal of the governor on this side the river. Next unto him repaired Uzziel the son of Har- 8 haiah, of the goldsmiths. Next unto him also repaired Hananiah the son of *one of* the perfume-makers ; but they had left Jerusalem standing unto the broad wall. And next 9 unto them repaired Rephaiah the son of Hur, the chief of half the district of Jerusalem. And next unto them re- 10 paired Jedaiah the son of Harumaph, even over against his house. And next unto him repaired Hattush the son of Hashabniah. Malchijah the son of Harim, and Hashub the 11 son of Pahath-moab, repaired a second portion, and the tower of the furnaces. And the next unto him repaired Shallum 12 the son of Halohesh, the chief of the *other* half of the district of Jerusalem, he and his daughters.

The valley gate repaired Hanun, and the inhabitants of 13 Zanoah ; they built it, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof, and a thousand cubits on the wall unto the dung gate.

But the dung gate repaired Malchiah the son of Rechab, 14 the chief of the district of Beth-haccerem ; he built it, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and bars thereof.

But the gate of the fountain repaired Shallum the son of 15 Col-hozeh, the chief of the district of Mizpah ; he built it, and covered it, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof, and the wall of the pool of Siloah by the king's garden, and unto the stairs that go down from the city of David. After him repaired Nehemiah the son of 16 Azbuk, the chief of half of the district of Beth-zur, unto a place over against the sepulchres of David, and to the pool that was made, and unto the house of the warriors. And 17 after him repaired the Levites, Rehum the son of Bani. Next unto him repaired Hashabiah, the chief of half of the district of Keilah, for his district. After him repaired their 18 brethren, Bavai the son of Henadad, the chief of half of the district of Keilah. And next to him repaired Ezer the son 19

of Jeshua, the chief of Mizpah, a second portion over against the ascent to the armoury at the turning of *the wall*.
 20 After him Baruch the son of Zabbai zealously repaired a second portion, from the turning of *the wall* unto the door of
 21 the house of Eliashib the high priest. After him repaired Meremoth the son of Urijah, the son of Koz, a second portion, from the door of the house of Eliashib, even to the
 22 end of the house of Eliashib. And after him repaired the
 23 priests, the men of the plain. After him repaired Benjamin and Hashub over against their house. After him repaired Azariah the son of Maaseiah the son of Ananiah by
 24 his house. After him repaired Binnui the son of Henadad a second portion, from the house of Azariah unto the turn-
 25 ing of *the wall*, even unto the corner. Palal the son of Uzai, over against the turning of *the wall*, and the tower which standeth out from the king's upper house, that was by the court of the prison. After him Pedaiah the son of Parosh.
 26 Moreover the Nethinim dwelt in Ophel, unto a *place* over against the water gate toward the east, and the tower that standeth out.
 27 After them the Tekoites repaired a second portion, over against the great tower that standeth out, even unto the wall of Ophel.
 28 From above the horse gate repaired the priests, every one
 29 over against his house. After them repaired Zadok the son of Immer over against his house. After him repaired also Shemaiah the son of Shechaniah, the keeper of the east gate.
 30 After him repaired Hananiah the son of Shelemiah, and Hanun the sixth son of Zalaph, a second portion. After him repaired Meshullam the son of Berechiah over against his
 31 chamber. After him repaired Malchiah the goldsmith's son unto the house of the Nethinim, and of the merchants, over against the gate Miphkad, and to the upper chamber of the
 32 corner. And between the upper chamber of the corner and the sheep gate repaired the goldsmiths and the merchants.

1 CHAP. IV.—But it came to pass, that when Sanballat
 2 heard that we were building the wall, he was wroth, and greatly vexed: and he mocked the Jews, and spake before his brethren and the army of Samaria, and said, “What do these feeble Jews? will they be allowed? will they sacrifice? will they now make an end? will they revive the stones out of the heaps
 3 of rubbish which are burned?” Now Tobiah the Ammonite

was by him, and he said, "Even that which they build, if a fox go up, he shall even break down their stone wall."

Hear, O our God; for we are despised; and turn back ⁴ their reproach upon their own head, and give them for a prey in the land of captivity; and cover not their iniquity, and let ⁵ not their sin be blotted out from before thee; for they have provoked *thee* to anger before the builders.

So we built the wall; and all the wall was joined together ⁶ unto the half thereof: for the people had a heart to work.

But it came to pass, that when Sanballat, and Tobiah, and ⁷ the Arabians, and the Ammonites, and the Ashdodites, heard that the walls of Jerusalem were being restored, and that the breaches began to be stopped, then they were very wroth, and conspired all of them together to come and to fight ⁸ s against Jerusalem, and to hinder it. Nevertheless we made ⁹ our prayer unto our God, and set a guard against them day and night, because of them. Then Judah said, "The strength ¹⁰ of the bearers of burdens faileth, and there is much rubbish; so that we are not able to build the wall." And our adver- ¹¹ saries said, "They shall not know, neither see, till we come into the midst among them, and slay them, and cause the work to cease."

And it came to pass, that when the Jews who dwelt by ¹² them came, and told *this* unto us ten times, from all places whence they returned unto us, then I set in the lower places ¹³ behind the wall, and on the higher places, I set the people after their families with their swords, their spears, and their bows. And I looked, and rose up, and said unto the nobles, ¹⁴ and to the rulers, and to the rest of the people, "Be not ye afraid of them; remember the Lord, the great and terrible, and fight for your brethren, your sons, and your daughters, your wives, and your houses."

And it came to pass, when our enemies heard that it was ¹⁵ known unto us, that God brought their counsel to nought, and we returned all of us to the wall, every one unto his work. And it came to pass from that time forth, that the ¹⁶ half of my servants wrought in the work, and the other half of them held the spears, the shields, and the bows, and the corslets; and the chief men were behind all the house of Judah. They that built on the wall, and they that bare ¹⁷ burdens, with those that laded, *each* with one of his hands wrought in the work, and *with* the other hand held a weapon. For the builders, every one had his sword girded by his side, ¹⁸

as he built ; and he that sounded the trumpet was by me.
19 And I said unto the nobles, and to the rulers, and to the rest
of the people, "The work is great and large, and we are
20 separated upon the wall, one far from another ; in what place
ye hear the sound of the trumpet, resort ye thither unto
us : our God shall fight for us."

21 So we laboured in the work ; and half of them held the
spears, from the rising of the morning till the stars came
22 forth. Likewise at the same time I said unto the people,
"Let every one with his servant lodge within Jerusalem, that
in the night they may be a guard to us, and work by day."
23 So neither I, nor my brethren, nor my servants, nor the men
of the guard which followed me, none of us put off our
clothes ; every one went with his weapon for water.

1 CHAP. V.—And there was a great cry of the people and
2 of their wives against their brethren the Jews. For there
were some that said, "We, our sons, and our daughters, are
many ; therefore let us get corn *for them*, that we may eat, and
3 live." Some also there were that said, "We have mortgaged
our lands, vineyards, and houses, that we may get corn,
4 because of the dearth." There were also that said, "We
have borrowed money *for* the king's tribute, *upon* our lands
5 and vineyards. And now our flesh is as the flesh of our
brethren, our children as their children : but, lo, we bring
into bondage our sons and our daughters to be servants, and
some of our daughters are brought unto bondage *already* :
neither is it in our power *to redeem them* ; for other men have
our lands and vineyards."

6 And I was very angry when I heard their cry and these
7 words. Then I considered within myself, and I rebuked the
nobles, and the rulers, and said unto them, "Ye exact usury,
every one of his brother." And I appointed a great assem-
8 bly concerning them. And I said unto them, "We after our
ability have redeemed our brethren the Jews, who were sold
unto the heathen ; and will ye even sell your brethren ? or
shall they be sold unto us ?" Then they held their peace,
9 and found no answer. I also said, "That which ye do is not
good : ought ye not to walk in the fear of our God because
10 of the reproach of the heathen our enemies ? I likewise, and
my brethren, and my servants, have lent them money and
11 corn : I pray you, let us leave off this usury. Restore, I
pray you, to them, even this day, their lands, their vineyards,

their oliveyards, and their houses, also the interest of money, and corn, wine, and oil, which ye exact of them."

Then said they, "We will restore them, and will require ¹² nothing of them ; so will we do as thou sayest." Then I called the priests, and made them take an oath to do according to this promise. I also shook my lap, and said, "So ¹³ may God shake out every man from his house, and from his labour, that performeth not this promise, even thus may he be shaken out and emptied." And all the congregation said, "Amen," and praised Jehovah. And the people did according to this promise.

Moreover from the time that I was appointed to be their ¹⁴ governor in the land of Judah, from the twentieth year even unto the two and thirtieth year of Artaxerxes the king, twelve years, I and my brethren have not eaten the bread due to me as governor. But the former governors who had been ¹⁵ before me had oppressed the people, and had taken of them bread and wine, beside forty shekels of silver ; yea, even their servants bare rule over the people : but so did not I, because of the fear of God. Moreover, also, I continued in ¹⁶ the work of this wall, neither bought we any land ; and all my servants were gathered together there upon the work. And there were at my table a hundred and fifty of the ¹⁷ Jews and rulers, beside those who came unto us from among the heathen that were about us. Now that which was prepared *for me* daily was one ox and six choice sheep ; also fowls were prepared for me, and once in ten days store of all sorts of wine ; and with *all* this I required not the bread due to me as governor, because the bondage was heavy upon this people.

Remember me, my God, for good *in* all that I have done ¹⁹ for this people.

CHAP. VI.—Now it came to pass, when Sanballat, and ¹ Tobiah, and Geshem the Arabian, and the rest of our enemies, heard that I had built the wall, and that there was no breach left therein (though at that time I had not set up the doors upon the gates), that Sanballat and Geshem sent unto me, ² saying, "Come, let us meet together in the villages in the plain of Ono." But they thought to do me evil. And I ³ sent messengers unto them, saying, "I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down ; why should the work cease, whilst I leave it, and come down to you ?" Yet they ⁴

sent unto me four times after this manner; and I answered them after the same manner.

5 Then Sanballat sent his servant unto me in like manner
6 the fifth time, with an open letter in his hand; wherein was written: "It is reported among the heathen, and Gashmu saith, that thou and the Jews think to rebel; for which cause thou buildest the wall, that thou mayest be their king, according to these words. And thou hast also appointed prophets to proclaim concerning thee at Jerusalem, saying, 'There is a king in Judah:' and now shall it be reported to the king according to these words. Come now therefore, and let us take counsel together."

8 Then I sent unto him, saying, "There are no such things done as thou sayest, but thou feignest them out of thine own heart." For they *would* all make us afraid, saying, "Their hands shall be weakened from the work, that it be not done."

Now therefore, *O God*, strengthen my hands.

10 Then I came unto the house of Shemaiah the son of Delaiyah the son of Mehetabeel, who was shut up; and he said, "Let us meet together in the house of God, within the temple, and let us shut the doors of the temple; for they will come to slay thee; even to-night will they come to slay thee."

11 And I said, "Should such a man as I flee? and who *is there*, that, *being* as I *am*, would go into the temple to save his life?

12 I will not go in." And, lo, I perceived that God had not sent him: but that he spoke the prophecy concerning me,
13 because Tobiah and Sanballat had hired him. Therefore was he hired, that I should be afraid, and do so, and sin, and that they might have *matter* for an evil report, that they might reproach me.

14 My God, remember thou Tobiah and Sanballat according to these their works, and also the prophetess Noadiah, and the rest of the prophets, who *would* have put me in fear.

15 So the wall was finished in the twenty-fifth *day of the month*
16 Elul, in fifty-two days. And it came to pass, when all our enemies heard *thereof*, that all the heathen that were about us were afraid, and were much cast down in their own eyes; for they knew that this work was wrought of our God.

17 Moreover in those days the nobles of Judah sent many letters unto Tobiah, and the *letters* of Tobiah came unto them. For there were many in Judah sworn unto him, because he was the son-in-law of Shechaniah the son of Arah; and his son Johanan had taken the daughter of Meshullam

the son of Berechiah. They also spoke of his good deeds before me, and reported my words to him. And Tobiah sent letters to put me in fear.

CHAP. VII.—Now it came to pass, when the wall was built, and I had set up the doors, and the door-keepers and the singers and the Levites were appointed, that I gave my brother Hanani, and Hananiah, the chief of the palace, charge over Jerusalem ; for he was a faithful man, and feared God above many. And I said unto them, “Let not the gates of Jerusalem be opened until the sun be hot ; and while they stand by, let them shut the doors, and bar them : and appoint watches of the inhabitants of Jerusalem, every one in his watch, and every one over against his house.”

Now the city was spacious and great ; but the people were few therein, and the houses were not built. And my God put into my heart to gather together the nobles, and the rulers, and the people, that they might be reckoned by genealogy. And I found a register of the genealogy of those who came up at the first ; and I found *thus* written therein :

“These are the children of the province, that went up out of the captivity, of them that had been carried away, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried away, and who came again to Jerusalem and to Judah, every one unto his city ; who came with Zerubbabel, Jeshua, Nehemiah, Asaris, Raamiah, Nahamani, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispereth, Bigvai, Nehum, Baanah.

The number of the men of the people of Israel :—The children of Parosh, two thousand a hundred and seventy-two. The children of Shephatiah, three hundred and seventy-two. The children of Arah, six hundred and fifty-two. The children of Pahath-moab, of the children of Jeshua and Joab, two thousand eight hundred and eighteen. The children of Elam, a thousand two hundred and fifty-four. The children of Zattu, eight hundred and forty-five. The children of Zaccai, seven hundred and sixty. The children of Binnui, six hundred and forty-eight. The children of Bebai, six hundred and twenty-eight. The children of Asgad, two thousand three hundred and twenty-two. The children of Adonikam, six hundred and sixty-seven. The children of Bigvai, two thousand and sixty-seven. The children of Adin, six hundred and fifty-five. The children of Ater of the family of Hesekiah, ninety-eight. The

22 children of Haahum, three hundred and twenty-eight. The
 23 children of Bezaï, three hundred and twenty-four. The
 24 children of Hariph, a hundred and twelve. The children of
 25 Gibeon, ninety-five. The men of Beth-lehem and Netophah,
 26 a hundred and eighty-eight. The men of Anathoth, a
 27 hundred and twenty-eight. The men of Bethzaveth,
 28 forty-two. The men of Kirjath-jearim, Chephirah, and
 29 Beeroth, seven hundred and forty-three. The men of Ramah
 30 and Gaba, six hundred and twenty-one. The men of Mich-
 31 mas, a hundred and twenty-two. The men of Beth-el and
 32 Ai, a hundred and twenty-three. The men of the other
 33 Nebo, fifty-two. The children of the other Elam, a thousand
 34 two hundred and fifty-four. The children of Harim, three
 35 hundred and twenty. The children of Jericho, three hundred
 36 and forty-five. The children of Lod, Hadid, and Ono, seven
 37 hundred and twenty-one. The children of Senaah, three
 38 thousand nine hundred and thirty.

39 The priests: the children of Jedaiah, of the house of
 40 Jeshua, nine hundred and seventy-three. The children of
 41 Immer, a thousand and fifty-two. The children of Pashur, a
 42 thousand two hundred and forty-seven. The children of
 Harim, a thousand and seventeen.

43 The Levites: the children of Jeshua, of *the family of*
 Kadmiel, and of the children of Hodevah, seventy-four.

44 The singers: the children of Asaph, a hundred and forty-
 eight.

45 The door-keepers: the children of Shallum, the children
 of Ater, the children of Talmon, the children of Akkub, the
 children of Hatita, the children of Shobai, a hundred and
 thirty-eight.

46 The Nethinim: the children of Ziha, the children of Ha-
 47 shupha, the children of Tabbaoth, the children of Keros, the
 48 children of Sia, the children of Padon, the children of Lebana,
 49 the children of Hagaba, the children of Shalmai, the children
 50 of Hanaan, the children of Giddel, the children of Gahar, the
 children of Reaiah, the children of Rezin, the children of
 51 Nekoda, the children of Gazzam, the children of Uzza, the
 52 children of Phaseah, the children of Besai, the children of
 53 Meunim, the children of Nephishesim, the children of Bak-
 54 buk, the children of Hakupha, the children of Harhur, the
 children of Bazlith, the children of Mehida, the children of
 55 Harsha, the children of Barkos, the children of Sisera, the
 56 children of Tamah, the children of Neziah, the children of

Hatipha. The children of Solomon's servants: the children ⁵⁷ of Sotai, the children of Sophereth, the children of Perida, the children of Jaala, the children of Darkon, the children ⁵⁸ of Giddel, the children of Shephatiah, the children of Hattil, ⁵⁹ the children of Pochereth Hazzebaim, the children of Amon. All the Nethinim, and the children of Solomon's servants, ⁶⁰ were three hundred and ninety-two.

And these are they who went up from Tel-melah, Tel-⁶¹ haresha, Cherub, Addon, and Immer; but they could not show their father's house, nor their descent, whether they were of Israel: the children of Delaiah, the children of To-⁶² biah, the children of Nekoda, six hundred and forty-two.

And of the priests: the children of Habaiah, the children ⁶³ of Hakoz, the children of Barzillai, who took a wife of the daughters of Barzillai the Gileadite, and was called after their name. These sought their genealogical register, but it was ⁶⁴ not found; therefore were they, as polluted, put from the priesthood. And the deputy said unto them that they should ⁶⁵ not eat of the most holy things, till there stood up a priest with Urim and Thummim.

The whole congregation together was forty-two thousand ⁶⁶ three hundred and sixty, beside their man-servants and ⁶⁷ their maid-servants; these were seven thousand three hundred and thirty-seven; and among them *were* two hundred and forty-five singing men and singing women. Their horses ⁶⁸ were seven hundred and thirty-six; their mules, two hundred and forty-five; *their* camels, four hundred and thirty-five; ⁶⁹ asses, six thousand seven hundred and twenty.

And some of the heads of the fathers gave unto the work. ⁷⁰ The deputy gave to the treasure a thousand darics of gold, fifty basons, five hundred and thirty priests' garments. And ⁷¹ some of the heads of the fathers gave to the treasure of the work twenty thousand darics of gold, and two thousand and two hundred manehs of silver. And that which the rest of ⁷² the people gave was twenty thousand darics of gold, and two thousand manehs of silver, and sixty-seven priests' garments.

So the priests, and the Levites, and the door-keepers, and ⁷³ the singers, and the people, and the Nethinim, and all Israel, dwelt in their cities.

And when the seventh month came, the children of Israel were in their cities. CHAP. VIII.—And all the people ¹ gathered themselves together as one man into the open space

that was before the water gate; and they spake unto Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses, which Je-
2 hovah had enjoined upon Israel. And Ezra the priest brought the law before the congregation both of men and women, and all that could hear with understanding, upon
3 the first day of the seventh month. And he read therein before the open space that was before the water gate, from the morning until mid-day, in presence of the men and the women, and those that could understand; and the ears of all
4 the people *were attentive* unto the book of the law. And Ezra the scribe stood upon a stage of wood, which they had made for the purpose; and beside him stood Mattithiah, and Shema, and Anaiah, and Urijah, and Hilkiah, and Maaseiah, on his right hand; and on his left hand, Pedaiah, and Mishael, and Malchiyah, and Hashum, and Hashbadana, Zechariah, and Meshullam. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people; (for he was above all the people;) and when he opened it, all the people stood up; and Ezra blessed Jehovah, the great God. And all the people answered,
6 "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands: and they bowed their heads, and worshipped Jehovah with their faces to the
7 ground. Also Jeshua, and Bani, and Sherebia, Jamin, Ak-kub, Shabbethai, Hodijah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Joza-bad, Hanan, Pelaiah, and the Levites, caused the people to
8 understand the law: and the people *stood* in their place. So they read in the book, in the law of God, distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading.

9 And Nehemiah, who was the deputy, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites that taught the people, said unto all the people, "This day is holy unto Jehovah your God; mourn not, nor weep." For all the people wept when they
10 heard the words of the law. Then he said unto them, "Go your way, eat of the fat, and drink of the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared; for this day is holy unto our Lord: neither be ye sorry; for the joy
11 of Jehovah is your strength." So the Levites stilled all the people, saying, "Hold your peace, for the day is holy; nei-
12 ther be ye grieved." And all the people went their way to eat, and to drink, and to send portions, and to rejoice greatly, because they had understood the words that were made known to them.

3 And on the second day were gathered together the heads of the fathers of all the people, the priests, and the Levites,

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unto Ezra the scribe, even to understand the words of the law. And they found written in the law which Jehovah had commanded by Moses, that the children of Israel should dwell in booths at the feast of the seventh month ; and that they should publish and proclaim in all their cities, and in Jerusalem, saying, “Go forth unto the mount, and fetch olive branches, and pine branches, and myrtle branches, and palm branches, and branches of trees of thick foliage, to make booths, as it is written.” So the people went forth, and brought them, and made themselves booths, every one upon the roof of his house, and in their courts, and in the courts of the house of God, and in the open space of the water gate, and in the open space of the gate of Ephraim. And all the congregation of them that were returned out of the captivity made booths, and sat under the booths : for since the days of Jeshua the son of Nun unto that day had not the children of Israel done so. And there was very great rejoicing. Also day by day, from the first day unto the last day, he read in the book of the law of God. And they kept the feast seven days ; and on the eighth day was an assembly, according to the custom.

CHAP. IX.—Now in the twenty-fourth day of this month the children of Israel assembled with fasting, and with sack-cloth, and earth upon them. And the seed of Israel separated themselves from all strangers, and stood and confessed their sins, and the iniquities of their fathers. And they stood up in their place, and read in the book of the law of Jehovah their God a fourth part of the day ; and a fourth part they confessed, and worshipped Jehovah their God. Then stood up upon the ascent, of the Levites, Jeshua, and Bani, Kadmiel, Shebaniah, Bunni, Sherebiah, Bani, and Chenani, and cried with a loud voice unto Jehovah their God.

Then the Levites, Jeshua, and Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabniah, Sherebiah, Hodijah, Shebaniah, and Pethahiah, said,

“ Stand up and bless Jehovah your God for ever and ever ; and blessed be thy glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise. Thou, *even thou*, art Jehovah alone ; thou hast made the heavens, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all that is therein, the seas, and all that is therein, and thou preservest them all ; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee. Thou, *even thou* art Jehovah,

the God who didst choose Abram, and broughtest him forth out of Ur of the Chaldees, and gavest him the name of Abraham ; and foundest his heart faithful before thee, and madest a covenant with him to give the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Jebusites, and the Girgasites, to give it to his seed, and hast performed thy words, for thou art righteous : and thou didst see the affliction of our fathers in Egypt, and hearest their cry by the Red sea ; and gavest signs and wonders upon Pharaoh, and on all his servants, and on all the people of his land ; for thou knewest that they dealt proudly against them. So didst thou make thee a name, as it is this day. And thou didst divide the sea before them, so that they went through the midst of the sea on the dry land ; and their pursuers thou didst cast into the deeps, as a stone into the mighty waters.

12 " Moreover thou leddest them in the day by a cloudy pillar ; and in the night by a pillar of fire, to give them light in the way wherein they should go. Thou camest down also upon mount Sinai, and spakest with them from heaven, and gavest them right judgments, and true laws, good statutes and commandments ; and madest known unto them thy holy sabbath, and didst enjoin on them commandments, and statutes, and a law, by the hand of Moses thy servant ; and gavest them bread from heaven for their hunger, and broughtest forth water for them out of the rock for their thirst, and promisedst them that they should go in to possess the land which thou hadst sworn to give them.

16 " But they, even our fathers dealt proudly, and hardened their necks, and hearkened not to thy commandments, but refused to hearken, neither remembered thy wonders that thou didst among them ; but hardened their necks, and in their rebellion appointed a leader to return to their bondage : but thou art a God ready to pardon, gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and forsookest them not. Yea, when they had made them a molten calf, and said, ' This is thy God that brought thee up out of Egypt,' and had wrought great provocations ; yet thou in thy manifold mercies forsookest them not in the wilderness : the pillar of the cloud departed not from them by day, to lead them in the way ; neither the pillar of fire by night, to give them light in the way wherein they should go.

20 " Thou gavest also thy good spirit to instruct them, and

withheldest not thy manna from their mouth, and gavest them water for their thirst. Yea, forty years didst thou sustain them in the wilderness ; they lacked nothing ; their clothes waxed not old, and their feet swelled not. Moreover 21 thou gavest them kingdoms and peoples, and didst distribute them : and they possessed the land of Sihon, even the land of the king of Heshbon, and the land of Og king of Bashan. Their children also multipliedst thou as the stars of heaven, 22 and broughtest them into the land, concerning which thou hadst promised to their fathers, that they should go in to possess it. So the children went in and possessed the land, 23 and thou subduedst before them the inhabitants of the land, the Canaanites, and gavest them into their hands, with their kings, and the peoples of the land, that they might do with them as they would. And they took fortified cities, and 24 a fat land, and possessed houses full of all good *things*, wells digged, vineyards, and oliveyards, and fruit trees in abundance ; so they did eat, and were filled, and became fat, and delighted themselves in thy great goodness.

" Nevertheless they were disobedient, and rebelled against 25 thee, and cast thy law behind their backs, and slew thy prophets who testified against them to bring them back to thee, and they wrought great provocations. Therefore thou deli- 26 veredst them into the hand of their enemies, who vexed them ; and in the time of their trouble, when they cried unto thee, thou hearest from heaven ; and according to thy manifold mercies thou gavest them saviours, who saved them out of the hand of their enemies. But after they had rest, they did 27 evil again before thee ; therefore didst thou leave them in the hand of their enemies, so that they had the dominion over them : and when they again cried unto thee, thou hearest from heaven : and many times didst thou deliver them accord- 28 ing to thy mercies ; and testifiedst against them, that thou mightest bring them back unto thy law : yet they dealt proudly, and hearkened not unto thy commandments, but sinned against thy judgments, which a man shall do that he may live by them ; and withdrew the shoulder, and hardened their neck, and hearkened not. Yet many years didst thou forbear towards 29 them, and testifiedst against them by thy spirit, by thy prophets : but they would not give ear ; therefore thou gavest them into the hand of the peoples of the lands. Nevertheless in thy 30 great mercies thou didst not utterly consume them, nor for- sake them ; for thou art a gracious and merciful God.

32 "Now, therefore, our God, the great, the mighty, and the terrible God, who keepest covenant and mercy, let not all the trouble seem little before thee, that hath come upon us, on our kings, on our chief men, and on our priests, and on our prophets, and on our fathers, and on all thy people, since the
 33 days of the kings of Assyria unto this day. Howbeit thou art just in all that is brought upon us; for thou hast dealt
 34 faithfully, but we have done wickedly: neither have our kings, our chief men, our priests, nor our fathers, kept thy law nor attended to thy commandments and thy testimonies,
 35 wherewith thou didst testify against them. For they have not served thee in their kingdom, and in thy great goodness that thou shewedst them, and in the large and fat land which thou didst set before them, neither turned they from their wicked
 36 works. Behold, we are servants this day, and the land that thou gavest unto our fathers to eat the fruit thereof and the
 37 good thereof, behold, we are servants in it; and it yieldeth much increase unto the kings whom thou hast set over us because of our sins; and they rule over our bodies, and over our cattle, at their pleasure, and we are in great distress."

38 And because of all this we made a sure *covenant*, and wrote it; and our princes, Levites, *and* priests, set seal *unto it*.

1 CHAP. X.—Now those that sealed were, Nehemiah, the
 2 deputy, the son of Hachaliah, and Zidkijah, Seraiah, Azariah,
 4 Jeremiah, Pashur, Amariah, Malchijah, Hattush, Shebaniah,
 6 Malluch, Harim, Meremoth, Obadiah, Daniel, Ginnethon,
 8 Baruch, Meshullam, Abijah, Mijamin, Maaziah, Bilgai, She-
 maiah: these were the priests.

9 And the Levites: Jeshua the son of Azaniah, Binnui of
 10 the sons of Henadad, Kadmiel; and their brethren, She-
 11 baniah, Hodijah, Kelita, Pelaiah, Hanan, Micha, Rehob,
 13 Hashabiah, Zaccur, Sherebiah, Shebaniah, Hodijah, Bani,
 Beninu.

14 The heads of the people: Parosh, Pahath-moab, Elam,
 16 Zatthu, Bani, Bunni, Azgad, Bebai, Adonijah, Bigvai, Adin,
 19 Ater, Hizkijah, Azzur, Hodijah, Hashum, Bezai, Hariph,
 21 Anathoth, Nebai, Magpiash, Meshullam, Hezir, Meshezabeel,
 23 Zadok, Jaddua, Pelatiah, Hanan, Anaiyah, Hoshea, Hananiah,
 25 Hashub, Hallohesh, Pileha, Shobek, Rehum, Hashabnah,
 27 Maaseiah, and Ahijah, Hanan, Anan, Malluch, Harim, Baa-
 nah.

28 And the rest of the people, the priests, the Levites, the

door-keepers, the singers, the Nethinim, and all they that had separated themselves from the peoples of the land unto the law of God, their wives, their sons, and their daughters, every one having knowledge, and having understanding, clave to ²⁹ their brethren *and* their nobles, and entered into an oath of imprecation to walk in God's law, which was given by the hand of Moses the servant of God, and to observe and do all the commandments of Jehovah our Lord, and his judgments and his statutes ; and that we would not give our daughters ³⁰ unto the peoples of the land, nor take their daughters for our sons ; and if ³¹ the peoples of the land bring wares or any kind of corn on the sabbath day to sell, that we would not take it from them on the sabbath, or on the holy day ; and that we would release the seventh year, and every debt.

We also made ordinances for ourselves, to charge ourselves ³² yearly with the third part of a shekel for the service of the house of our God ; for the shewbread, and the continual meal- ³³ offering, and for the continual burnt-offering, of the sabbaths, of the new moons, for the set feasts, and for the holy things, and for the sin-offerings to make an atonement for Israel, and for all the work of the house of our God.

And we cast lots *among* the priests, the Levites, and the ³⁴ people, for the wood-offering, to bring it to the house of our God, after the houses of our fathers, at times appointed year by year, to burn upon the altar of Jehovah our God, as it is written in the law : and to bring the first-fruits ³⁵ of our ground, and the first-fruits of all fruit of all trees, year by year unto the house of Jehovah : also the first-born ³⁶ of our sons, and of our cattle, as it is written in the law, and the firstlings of our herds and of our flocks, to bring to the house of our God, unto the priests that minister in the house of our God : and that we should bring the first-fruits of our ³⁷ barley, and our offerings, and the fruit of all manner of trees, of wine and of oil, unto the priests, to the chambers of the house of our God ; and the tithes of our ground unto the Levites, that the same Levites might take the tithes in all the cities of our tillage. And the priest the son of Aaron shall ³⁸ be with the Levites, when the Levites take tithes : and the Levites shall bring up the tithe of the tithes unto the house of our God, to the chambers in the treasure house. For the ³⁹ children of Israel and the children of Levi shall bring the offering of the corn, of the new wine, and the oil, unto the chambers, where are the vessels of the sanctuary, and

the priests that minister, and the door-keepers and the singers; and we will not forsake the house of our God.

1 CHAP. XI.—And the chiefs of the people dwelt at Jerusalem; the rest of the people also cast lots, to bring one of ten to dwell in Jerusalem the holy city, and nine parts in 2 other cities. And the people blessed all the men, that willingly offered themselves to dwell at Jerusalem.

3 Now these are the heads of the province that dwelt in Jerusalem: but in the cities of Judah dwelt every one in his possession in their cities, the Israelites, the priests, and the Levites, and the Nethinim, and the children of 4 Solomon's servants. And at Jerusalem dwelt *certain* of the children of Judah, and of the children of Benjamin.

Of the children of Judah: Athaiah the son of Uzziah, the son of Zechariah, the son of Amaria, the son of Shephatiah, the 5 son of Mahalaleel, of the children of Perez; and Maaseiah the son of Baruch, the son of Colhozeh, the son of Azaiah, the son of Adaiah, the son of Joiarib, the son of Zechariah, the son 6 of Shiloni. All the children of Perez that dwelt at Jerusalem were four hundred and sixty-eight valiant men.

7 And these are the children of Benjamin: Sallu the son of Meshullam, the son of Jeed, the son of Pedaiah, the son of Kolaiah, the son of Maaseiah, the son of Ithiel, the son of 8 Jesaiah. And after him Gabbai, Sallai, nine hundred and 9 twenty-eight. And Joel the son of Zichri was their overseer; and Judah the son of Senuah was second over the city.

10 Of the priests: Jedaiah the son of Joiarib, Jachin. 11 Seraish the son of Hilkiah, the son of Meshullam, the son of Zadok, the son of Meraioth, the son of Ahitub, was the super-12 intendent of the house of God. And their brethren that did the work of the house were eight hundred and twenty-two: and Adaiah the son of Jeroham, the son of Pelaliah, the son of Amzi, the son of Zechariah, the son of Pashur, 13 the son of Malchiah, and his brethren, heads of the fathers, two hundred and forty-two; and Amashai, the son of Aza-reel, the son of Ahasai, the son of Meashillemoth, the son of 14 Immer, and their brethren, mighty men of valour, a hundred and twenty-eight; and their overseer was Zabdiel, the son of Gedolim.

15 And of the Levites: Shemaiah, the son of Hashub, the 16 son of Azrikam, the son of Hashabiah, the son of Bunni; and Shabbethai and Jozabad, of the heads of the Levites, were

over the outward business of the house of God. And Mat- 17 taniah the son of Micha, the son of Zabdi, the son of Asaph, was the head to begin the thanksgiving in prayer: and Bak- bukiah the second among his brethren, and Abda the son of Shammua, the son of Galal, the son of Jeduthun. All 18 the Levites in the holy city were two hundred and eighty- four.

Moreover the door-keepers, Akkub, Talmon, and their 19 brethren that kept the gates, were a hundred and seventy- two.

And the rest of Israel, of the priests, and the Levites, 20 were in all the cities of Judah, every one in his inheritance. But the Nethinim dwelt in Ophel: and Ziha and Gispa were 21 over the Nethinim.

The overseer also of the Levites at Jerusalem was Uzzi the 22 son of Bani, the son of Hashabiah, the son of Mattaniah, the son of Micha. Of the children of Asaph, the singers 23 were for the business of the house of God. For it was the king's commandment concerning them, that a certain portion should be for the singers, due for every day.

And Pethiah the son of Meshezabeel, of the children of 24 Zerah the son of Judah, represented the king in all matters concerning the people.

And in regard to the villages, with their fields, some of the 25 children of Judah dwelt at Kirjath-arba, and in the villages thereof, and at Dibon, and in the villages thereof, and at Jekabzeel, and in the villages thereof, and at Jeshua, and at 26 Moladah, and at Beth-phelet, and at Hazarshual, and at 27 Beer-sheba, and in the villages thereof, and at Ziklag, and 28 at Meconah, and in the villages thereof, and at En-rimmon, 29 and at Zareah, and at Jarmuth, Zanoah, Adullam, and in 30 their villages, at Lachish and the fields thereof, at Azekah, and in the villages thereof. And they extended from Beer- sheba unto the valley of Hinnom.

The children also of Benjamin from Geba *dwelt in* Mich- 31 mash, and Aijah, and Beth-el, and the villages thereof, at 32 Anathoth, Nob, Ananiah, Hazor, Ramah, Gittaim, Hadid, 34 Zeboim, Neballat, Lod and Ono, the valley of craftsmen. 35 And of the Levites, divisions belonging to Judah *were given* 36 to Benjamin.

CHAP. XII.—Now these are the priests and the Levites 1 that went up with Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and

2 Jeshua: Seraiah, Jeremiah, Ezra, Amariah, Malluch, Hatchush, Shechaniah, Rehum, Meremoth, Iddo, Ginnetho,
4 Abijah, Miamim, Maadiah, Bilgah, Shemaiah, and Joiarib,
7 Jedaiah, Sallu, Amok, Hilkiah, Jedaiah. These were the heads of the priests and of their brethren in the days of Jeshua.

8 Moreover the Levites : Jeshua, Binnui, Kadmiel, Sherebiah, Judah, and Mattaniah, *who* was over the thanksgiving, he and his brethren. Also Bakbukiah, and Unni, their brethren, were over against them in the watches.

10 And Jeshua begat Joiakim, and Joiakim begat Eliashib, 11 and Eliashib begat Joiada, and Joiada begat Jonathan, and Jonathan begat Jaddua.

12 And in the days of Joiakim were priests, the heads of the fathers : of Seraiah, Meraiah ; of Jeremiah, Hananiah ; of Ezra, Meshullam ; of Amariah, Jehohanan ; of Melicu, Jonathan ; of Shebaniah, Joseph ; of Harim, Adna ; of Meraioth, Helkai ; of Iddo, Zechariah ; of Ginnethon, Meshullam ; of Abijah, Zichri ; of Miniamin, of Moadiah, Piltai ; of Bilgah, Shammua ; of Shemaiah, Jehonathan ; and of Joiarib, Mat-tenai ; of Jedaiah, Uzzi ; of Sallai, Kallai ; of Amok, Eber ; 21 of Hilkiah, Hashabiah ; of Jedaiah, Nethaneel.

22 Of the Levites, in the days of Eliashib, Joiada, and Johanan, and Jaddua, were recorded heads of the fathers ; also 23 the priests to the reign of Darius the Persian. The sons of Levi, the heads of the fathers, were recorded in the book of the Annals, even until the days of Johanan the son of Eliashib.

24 And the heads of the Levites : Hashabiah, Sherebiah, and Jeshua the son of Kadmiel, with their brethren over against them, to praise and to give thanks, according to the commandment of David the man of God, guard opposite to guard.

25 Mattaniah, and Bakbukiah, Obadiah, Meshullam, Salmon, Akkub, were door-keepers keeping guard at the store-chambers of the gates. These were in the days of Joiakim the son of Jeshua, the son of Jozadak, and in the days of Nehemiah the governor, and of Ezra the priest and scribe.

27 And at the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem they sought the Levites out of all their places, to bring them to Jerusalem, to keep the dedication and rejoice, both with thanksgivings, 28 and with singing, *with* cymbals, lutes, and harps. And the sons of the singers gathered themselves together, both out of the country round about Jerusalem, and from the

villages of Netophathi ; also from the house of Gilgal, and 29 out of the fields of Geba and Azmaveth : for the singers had built themselves villages round about Jerusalem. And the 30 priests and the Levites purified themselves, and purified the people, and the gates, and the wall.

Then I brought up the chief men of Judah upon the wall, 31 and appointed two great choirs and processions ; one went on the right hand upon the wall toward the dung gate : and 32 after them went Hoshaiyah, and half of the chief men of Judah, and Azariah, Ezra, and Meshullam, Judah and Ben- 34 jamin, and Shemaiah, and Jeremiah, and certain of the 35 priests' sons with trumpets ; namely, Zechariah the son of Jonathan, the son of Shemaiah, the son of Mattaniah, the son of Michaiah, the son of Zaccur, the son of Asaph : and 36 his brethren, Shemaiah, and Azrael, Milalai, Gilalai, Maai, Nethaneel, and Judah, Hanani, with the musical instruments of David the man of God, and Ezra the scribe before them. And at the fountain gate, which was over against them, they 37 went up by the stairs of the city of David, at the ascent of the wall above the house of David, even unto the water gate eastward.

And the other choir went in a contrary direction, and I 38 after them, with the half of the people upon the wall, from beyond the tower of the furnaces even unto the broad wall ; and from above the gate of Ephraim, and above the old gate, 39 and above the fish gate, and the tower of Hananeel, and the tower of Meah, even unto the sheep gate ; and they stood still by the prison gate.

So stood the two choirs by the house of God, and I, and 40 the half of the rulers with me ; and the priests, Eliakim, 41 Maaseiah, Miniamin, Michaiah, Elioenai, Zechariah, Hananiah, with trumpets ; and Maaseiah, and Shemaiah, and Eleazar, 42 and Uzzi, and Jehohanan, and Malchijah, and Elam, and Ezer. And the singers sang loudly with Jezrahiah their overseer. And they offered on that day great sacrifices, and 43 rejoiced ; for God had made them rejoice with great joy : the wives also and the children rejoiced ; so that the joy of Jerusalem was heard even afar off.

And on that day were men appointed over the store- 44 chambers, for the offerings, for the first-fruits, and for the tithes, to gather into them out of the fields of the cities the lawful portions for the priests and Levites ; for Judah rejoiced in the priests and in the Levites that waited. And 45

both the singers and the door-keepers kept the observance of their God, and the observance of the purification, according
46 to the commandment of David, and of Solomon his son. For in the days of David and Asaph of old there were heads of the singers, and songs of praise and thanksgiving unto God.
47 And all Israel in the days of Zerubbabel, and in the days of Nehemiah, gave portions for the singers and the door-keepers, every day its portion; and they set them apart for the Levites; and the Levites set them apart for the children of Aaron.

- 1 CHAP. XIII.—On that day they read in the book of Moses in the audience of the people; and therein was found written, that the Ammonite and the Moabite should not
- 2 come into the congregation of God for ever; because they met not the children of Israel with bread and with water, but hired Balaam against them, that he should curse them: howbeit our God turned the curse into a blessing.
- 3 Now it came to pass, when they had heard the law, that they separated from Israel all the strangers.
- 4 And before this, Eliashib the priest, occupying a chamber
- 5 of the house of our God, was allied unto Tobiah; and he had prepared for him a great chamber, where aforetime they laid the meal-offerings, the frankincense, and the vessels, and the tithes of corn, new wine, and oil, commanded *to be given* to the Levites, and the singers, and the door-keepers; and
- 6 the offerings of the priests. But in all this *time* I was not at Jerusalem; for in the two-and-thirtieth year of Artaxerxes king of Babylon I came unto the king, and after certain days
- 7 I obtained leave of the king: and I came to Jerusalem, and understood of the evil that Eliashib did for Tobiah, in preparing for him a chamber in the courts of the house of God.
- 8 And it grieved me sore; therefore I cast forth all the household goods of Tobiah out of the chamber. Then I commanded, and they cleansed the chambers; and I brought back thither the vessels of the house of God, with the meal-offerings and the frankincense.
- 10 And I perceived that the portions of the Levites had not been given them; and that the Levites and the singers, that
- 11 did the work, were fled every one to his field. Then contended I with the rulers, and said, “Why is the house of God forsaken?” And I gathered them together, and set
- 12 them in their place. Then all Judah brought the tithe of

corn and new wine and oil unto the store-houses. And I ¹³ placed over the store-houses Shelemiah the priest, and Zadok the scribe, and of the Levites, Pedaiah ; and next to them was Hanan the son of Zaccur, the son of Mattaniah ; for they were accounted faithful, and their office was to distribute unto their brethren.

Remember me, O my God, for this, and blot not out my ¹⁴ zealous deeds that I have done for the house of my God, and for the observances thereof.

In those days I saw in Judah *men* treading wine presses ¹⁵ on the sabbath, and bringing in sheaves, and lading asses; as also wine, grapes, and figs, and every *kind of* burden, which they brought into Jerusalem on the sabbath day : and I testified *against them* in the day wherein they sold victuals. There dwelt men of Tyre also therein, who brought fish, ¹⁶ and all manner of ware, and sold on the sabbath unto the children of Judah, and in Jerusalem. Then I contended ¹⁷ with the nobles of Judah, and said unto them, "What evil thing is this that ye do, and profane the sabbath day ? Did ¹⁸ not your fathers thus, and did not our God bring all this evil upon us, and upon this city ? yet ye bring more wrath upon Israel by profaning the sabbath."

And it came to pass, that when the gates of Jerusalem ¹⁹ began to be dark before the sabbath, I commanded that the doors should be shut ; and I commanded that they should not be opened till after the sabbath : and I set some of my servants at the gates, that no burden should come in on the sabbath day. So the merchants and sellers of all kind of ²⁰ ware lodged without Jerusalem once and again. Then I tes- ²¹ tified against them, and said unto them, "Why lodge ye before the wall ? if ye do so again, I will lay hands on you." From that time forth they came not on the sabbath.

And I commanded the Levites that they should cleanse ²² themselves, and that they should come *and* guard the gates, to keep holy the sabbath day.

Remember me, O my God, *for* this also, and spare me according to the greatness of thy mercy.

In those days also I saw Jews that had married wives of ²³ Ashdod, of Ammon, and of Moab : and half of their chil- ²⁴ dren spake in the speech of Ashdod, and could not speak in the Jews' language, but according to the language of each people. And I contended with them, and cursed them, and ²⁵ smote certain of them, and plucked off their hair, and made

them swear by God, *saying*, "Ye shall not give your daughters unto their sons, nor take their daughters unto
26 your sons, or for yourselves. Did not Solomon king of Israel sin by these things? although among many nations there was no king like him, who was beloved of his God, and God made him king over all Israel; nevertheless even him
27 did strange women cause to sin. Shall we then hearken unto you to do all this great evil, to transgress against our God by marrying strange wives?"

28 And one of the sons of Joiada, the son of Eliashib the high priest, was son-in-law to Sanballat the Horonite; therefore I chased him from me. Remember them, O my God, because they have defiled the priesthood, and the covenant of the priesthood, and of the Levites.

29 Thus I cleansed them from all strangers, and appointed the observances of the priests and the Levites, every one in
31 his work; and *provided* for the wood-offering, at stated times, and for the first-fruits.

Remember me, O my God, for good.

E S T H E R.

CHAP. I.—Now it came to pass in the days of Ahasuerus, the Ahasuerus who reigned, from India even unto Ethiopia, over a hundred and twenty-seven provinces; that in those days, when the king Ahasuerus sat on the throne of his kingdom, which was in Shushan the palace, in the third year of his reign, he made a feast unto all his princes and his servants, the power of Persia and Media, the nobles and princes of the provinces *being* before him; when he shewed the riches of his glorious empire and the magnificence of his greatness many days, *even* a hundred and eighty days.

And when these days were expired, the king made a feast unto all the people that were present in Shushan the palace, both unto great and small, seven days, in the court of the garden of the king's house; *where were hangings of* white and purple linen and cotton, fastened with cords of fine linen and crimson to silver rings and pillars of white marble: the couches were of gold and silver, upon a pavement of green, and white, and pearl-coloured, and black marble. And they gave them drink in vessels of gold (the vessels being diverse from one another), and royal wine in abundance, according to the bounty of the king. And the drinking was according to the law; none did compel: for so the king had appointed to all the officers of his house, that they should do according to every man's pleasure. Also Vashti the queen made a feast for the women in the royal house which belonged to king Ahasuerus.

On the seventh day, when the heart of the king was merry with wine, he commanded Mehuman, Biztha, Harbona, Bigtha, and Abagtha, Zethar, and Carcas, the seven chamberlains that ministered in the presence of Ahasuerus the king, to bring Vashti the queen before the king with the crown royal, to shew the people and the princes her beauty; for

12 she was fair to look on. But the queen Vashti refused to come at the king's commandment by his chamberlains ; therefore was the king very wroth, and his anger burned in him.

13 Then the king said to the wise men, who knew the times, (for so was the king's business *done* in the presence of all

14 that knew law and judgment ; and the nearest unto him were Carshena, Shethar, Admatha, Tarshish, Meres, Marcena, and Memucan, the seven princes of Persia and Media, who saw the king's face, and sat the first in the kingdom,))

15 "What shall we do unto the queen Vashti according to law, because she hath not performed the commandment of the king Ahasuerus by the chamberlains ?"

16 And Memucan answered before the king and the princes : "Not to the king only hath Vashti the queen done wrong,

but also to all the princes, and to all the people that are

17 in all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus. For *this* deed of the queen will go forth unto all women, so that they will despise their husbands in their eyes, when it shall be reported, 'The king Ahasuerus commanded Vashti the queen to

18 be brought in before him, but she came not.' And this day shall the ladies of Persia and Media, who have heard of the deed of the queen, say *likewise* unto all the king's princes.

19 Thus *shall there arise* too much contempt and wrath. If it please the king, let there go forth a royal commandment from him, and let it be written among the laws of the Persians and the Medes, that it be not altered, That Vashti come no more before king Ahasuerus ; and let the king give her royal

20 dignity unto another that is better than she. And when the king's decree which he shall make shall be published throughout all his empire (for it is great), all the wives shall give honour to their husbands, both to great and small."

21 And the saying pleased the king and the princes ; and the

22 king did according to the saying of Memucan ; for he sent letters into all the king's provinces, into every province according to the writing thereof, and to every people after their language, that every man should bear rule in his own house ; and *that each governor* should publish *this* according to the language of his people.

1 CHAP. II.—After these things, when the wrath of king Ahasuerus was appeased, he remembered Vashti, and what 2 she had done, and what was decreed concerning her. Then said the king's servants that ministered unto him, "Let

there be fair young virgins sought for the king ; and let the 3 king appoint officers in all the provinces of his kingdom, that they may gather together all the fair young virgins unto Shushan the palace, to the house of the women, to the custody of Hege, the king's chamberlain, keeper of the women ; and let their purifying perfumes be given them : and let the 4 maiden which pleaseth the king be queen instead of Vashti." And the thing pleased the king ; and he did so.

In Shushan the palace there was a certain Jew, whose name 5 was Mordecai, the son of Jair, the son of Shimei, the son of Kish, a Benjamite ; who had been carried away from Jerusalem with the captives who had been carried away with Jeconiah king of Judah, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried away. And he had brought up Hadas- 7 sah, that is, Esther, his uncle's daughter, for she had neither father nor mother : and the maiden was beautiful in form and countenance ; and when her father and mother were dead Mordecai took her for his own daughter.

So it came to pass, when the king's commandment and his 8 decree was heard, and when many maidens were gathered together unto Shushan the palace, to the custody of Hegai, that Esther was brought also unto the king's house, to the custody of Hegai, keeper of the women. And the maiden pleased 9 him, and she obtained kindness of him ; and he hastened to give her her purifying perfumes, and her portions of food, and seven maidens selected out of the king's house : and he transferred her and her maidens into the best part of the house of the women. Esther had not declared her people 10 nor her kindred ; for Mordecai had charged her that she should not declare it. And Mordecai walked every day before the court of the women's house, to know how Esther did, and what should become of her.

Now when every maiden's turn was come to go in to king 12 Ahasuerus, after that she had been twelve months, according to the custom of the women, (for thus were the days of their purifications accomplished,—six months with oil of myrrh, and six months with sweet spices, and with *other* purifying perfumes of women,) then thus came the maiden unto the 13 king ; whatsoever she desired was given her to go with her out of the house of the women unto the king's house. In 14 the evening she went, and on the morrow she returned into the second house of the women, to the custody of Shaashgaz, the king's chamberlain, who kept the concubines : she

came in unto the king no more, unless the king delighted in her, and she were called by name.

15 Now when the turn of Esther, the daughter of Abihail the uncle of Mordecai, who had taken her for his daughter, was come to go in unto the king, she required nothing but what Hegai the king's chamberlain, the keeper of the women, appointed. And Esther obtained favour in the sight of all
 16 that looked upon her. So Esther was taken unto king Ahasuerus into his house royal in the tenth month, which is the
 17 month Tebeth, in the seventh year of his reign. And the king loved Esther above all the women, and she obtained favour and kindness in his sight more than all the virgins; so that he set the royal crown upon her head, and made her
 18 queen instead of Vashti. Then the king made a great feast unto all his princes and his servants, as the feast of Esther; and he made a remission of tribute to the provinces, and gave gifts, according to the bounty of the king.

19 And when virgins were gathered together a second time,
 20 then Mordecai sat in the king's gate. Esther had not declared her kindred nor her people; as Mordecai had charged her: for Esther did the commandment of Mordecai, as when she was in his care.

21 In those days, while Mordecai sat in the king's gate, two of the king's chamberlains, Bigthan and Teresh, of those who kept the door, were wroth, and sought to lay hand on
 22 the king Ahasuerus. And the matter became known to Mordecai, who told it unto Esther the queen; and Esther related
 23 it to the king in Mordecai's name. And when the matter was inquired into, it was found out; therefore they were both hanged on a tree: and it was written in the Book of the Annals before the king.

1 CHAP. III.—After these things did king Ahasuerus promote Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, and advanced him, and set his seat above all the princes that
 2 were with him. And all the king's servants, that were in the king's gate, bowed, and did reverence to Haman; for the king had so commanded concerning him. But Mordecai
 3 bowed not, nor did him reverence. Then the king's servants, which were in the king's gate, said unto Mordecai, “Why transgressest thou the king's commandment?”

4 Now it came to pass, when they spake daily unto him,
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and he hearkened not unto them, that they told Haman, to see whether the words of Mordecai would stand; for he had told them that he was a Jew. And when Haman saw that 5 Mordecai bowed not, nor did him reverence, then was Haman full of wrath. And he disdained to lay hands on Mordecai 6 alone; for they had told him the people of Mordecai: wherefore Haman sought to destroy all the Jews that were throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus, *even* the people of Mordecai.

In the first month, that is, the month Nisan, in the twelfth 7 year of king Ahasuerus, they cast Pur, that is, the lot, before Haman from day to day, and from month to month, to the twelfth *month*, that is, the month Adar. And Haman 8 said unto king Ahasuerus: "There is a certain people scattered abroad and dispersed among the peoples in all the provinces of thy kingdom; and their laws are diverse from *those* of every people; neither do they obey the king's laws: therefore it is not meet for the king to suffer them. If it 9 please the king, let it be written that they may be destroyed; and I will pay ten thousand talents of silver into the hands of those that do the business, to bring it into the king's treasuries." And the king took his ring from his hand, and gave 10 it unto Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, the adversary of the Jews. And the king said unto Haman: "The 11 silver is given to thee, the people also, to do with them as it seemeth good to thee."

Then were the king's scribes called on the thirteenth day 12 of the first month, and there was written according to all that Haman commanded, unto the king's satraps, and to the governors that were over every province, and to the princes of every people of every province according to the writing thereof, and to every people according to their language; in the name of king Ahasuerus was it written, and sealed with the king's ring. And the letters were sent by the 13 runners into all the king's provinces, to destroy, to kill, and to cause to perish, all Jews, both young and old, little children and women, in one day, *even* upon the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month Adar, and to 14 take the spoil of them for a prey. A copy of the writing to be given for a decree in every province, was published unto all the peoples, that they should be ready against that day. The runners went forth, being urged on by the king's com- 15

mandment, and the decree was given in Shushan the palace. And the king and Haman sat down to drink ; but the city of Shushan was perplexed.

1 CHAP. IV.—When Mordecai perceived all that was done, Mordecai rent his garments, and put on sackcloth and ashes, and went out into the midst of the city, and cried with a 2 loud and bitter cry ; and came even before the king's gate : for none might enter into the king's gate clothed with sack- 3 cloth. And in every province, whithersoever the king's com- mandment and his decree came, there was great mourning among the Jews, and fasting, and weeping, and wailing ; and many lay in sackcloth and ashes.

4 And Esther's maidens and her chamberlains came and told her. Then was the queen exceedingly grieved ; and she sent raiment to clothe Mordecai, and to take away his sackcloth 5 from him ; but he received it not. Then called Esther for Hatach, *one* of the king's chamberlains, whom he had appointed to attend upon her, and gave him a charge to Mor- 6 decai, to know what it was, and why it was. So Hatach went forth to Mordecai unto the open space of the city, which was 7 before the king's gate. And Mordecai told him of all that had happened unto him, and of the sum of money that Haman had promised to pay to the king's treasuries for the 8 Jews, to destroy them. He also gave him a copy of the writing of the decree that was given at Shushan to destroy them, to shew unto Esther, and to inform her, and to charge her that she should go in unto the king, to make supplication unto him, and to make request before him for her 9 people.

9 And Hatach came and told Esther the words of Mordecai. 10 And Esther spake unto Hatach, and gave him charge unto 11 Mordecai, *saying* : " All the king's servants, and the people of the king's provinces, do know, that whosoever, whether man or woman, shall come unto the king into the inner court, who is not called, *there is* one law of his to put him to death, except any one to whom the king shall hold out the golden sceptre, that he may live ; but I have not been called 12 to come in unto the king these thirty days." And they told to Mordecai Esther's words.

13 Then Mordecai commanded to answer Esther : " Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, 14 more than all the Jews. For if thou altogether holdest thy

peace at this time, *then* shall relief and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom *even* for such a time as this?" Then Esther 15 bade them answer Mordecai, *saying*: "Go, gather together all 16 the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day; I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish." So Mordecai went his way, and did according to all 17 that Esther had commanded him.

CHAP. V.—And it came to pass on the third day, that 1 Esther put on *her* royal apparel, and stood in the inner court of the king's house, in front of the king's house: and the king sat upon his royal throne in the royal house, opposite to the door of the house. And it came to pass, when the 2 king saw Esther the queen standing in the court, that she obtained favour in his sight; and the king held out to Esther the golden sceptre that was in his hand. So Esther drew near, and touched the top of the sceptre. Then said the king unto 3 her: "What wilt thou, queen Esther? and what is thy request? it shall be given thee even to the half of the kingdom." And Esther answered: "If *it seem* good unto the 4 king, let the king and Haman come this day unto the banquet that I have prepared for him." Then the king said: 5 "Cause Haman to make haste, that he may do as Esther hath said." So the king and Haman came to the banquet that Esther had prepared.

And the king said unto Esther at the banquet of wine: 6 "What is thy petition? and it shall be granted thee; and what is thy request? even to the half of the kingdom it shall be performed." Then answered Esther and said: "My 7 petition and my request is *this*: If I have found favour in the sight of the king, and if it please the king to grant my petition, and to perform my request, let the king and Haman come to the banquet that I shall prepare for them, and I will do to morrow as the king hath said."

Then went Haman forth that day joyful and with a glad 9 heart: but when Haman saw Mordecai in the king's gate, that he stood not up, nor moved for him, he was full of indignation against Mordecai. Nevertheless Haman restrained 10 himself: and when he came home, he sent and caused his

11 friends, and Zeresh his wife, to come *to him*. And Haman recounted to them the glory of his riches, and the multitude of his children, and all wherein the king had promoted him, and how he had advanced him above the princes and
12 servants of the king. Haman said moreover: "Yea, Esther the queen did let no man come in with the king unto the banquet that she had prepared but myself; and to-morrow
13 am I invited unto her also with the king. Yet all this availeth me nothing, so long as I see Mordecai the Jew sitting
14 at the king's gate." Then said Zeresh his wife and all his friends unto him: "Let a gallows be made of fifty cubits high, and to-morrow speak thou unto the king that Mordecai may be hanged thereon: then go thou in joyfully with the king unto the banquet." And the thing pleased Haman; and he caused the gallows to be made.

1 CHAP. VI.—On that night the king could not sleep, and he commanded to bring the Book of the records of daily affairs;
2 and they were read before the king. And it was found written, that Mordecai had told of Bigthana and Teresh, two of the king's chamberlains, of those who guarded the door, who sought to lay hands on the king Ahasuerus.

3 And the king said: "What honour and dignity hath been done to Mordecai for this?" Then said the king's servants that ministered unto him: "There hath nothing been done
4 for him." And the king said: "Who is in the court?" Now Haman was come into the outer court of the king's house, to speak unto the king to hang Mordecai on the
5 gallows that he had prepared for him. And the king's servants said unto him: "Behold, Haman standeth in the court." And the king said: "Let him come in."

6 So Haman came in. And the king said unto him: "What shall be done unto the man whom the king delighteth to honour?" Now Haman thought in his heart, To whom would the king delight to do honour more than to myself?
7 And Haman answered the king, "*For* the man whom the
8 king delighteth to honour, let the royal apparel be brought which the king weareth, and the horse that the king rideth
9 upon, and the crown royal which is set upon his head; and let the apparel and the horse be delivered to one of the king's most noble princes, that they may array the man whom the king delighteth to honour, and bring him on horseback into the open space of the city, and proclaim before him, Thus

shall it be done to the man whom the king delighteth to honour."

Then the king said to Haman : " Make haste and take the apparel and the horse, as thou hast said, and do even so to Mordecai the Jew, that sitteth at the king's gate : let nothing fail of all that thou hast said."

Then took Haman the apparel and the horse, and arrayed 11 Mordecai, and brought him on horseback into the open space of the city, and proclaimed before him, " Thus shall it be done unto the man whom the king delighteth to honour."

And Mordecai returned to the king's gate. But Haman 12 hastened to his house mourning, and having his head covered. And Haman told Zeresh his wife and all his friends every 13 thing that had befallen him. Then said his wise men and Zeresh his wife unto him : " If Mordecai be of the seed of the Jews, before whom thou hast begun to fall, thou wilt not prevail against him, but wilt surely fall before him."

And while they were yet talking with him, came the king's 14 chamberlains, and brought Haman hastily unto the banquet which Esther had prepared.

CHAP. VII.—So the king and Haman came to banquet 1 with Esther the queen. And the king said again unto Esther 2 on the second day at the banquet of wine : " What is thy petition, queen Esther ? and it shall be granted thee : and what is thy request ? and it shall be performed, even to the half of the kingdom." Then Esther the queen answered and 3 said : " If I have found favour in thy sight, O king, and if it please the king, let my life be given me at my petition, and my people at my request ; for we are sold, I and my 4 people, to be destroyed, to be slain, and to perish. But if we had been sold for bondmen and bondwomen, I had held my tongue, although the adversary could not compensate for the king's damage."

Then the king Ahasuerus answered and said unto Esther 5 the queen, " Who is he, and where is he, that durst presume in his heart to do so ? " And Esther said, " The adversary 6 and enemy is this wicked Haman."

Then Haman was afraid before the king and the queen. And the king rose up from the banquet of wine in his wrath, 7 and went into the palace garden ; and Haman stood up to make request for his life to Esther the queen ; for he saw that there was evil determined against him by the king.

8 And when the king returned out of the palace garden into the house of the banquet of wine, Haman was fallen upon the couch whereon Esther sat. Then said the king: "Will he also force the queen before me in the house?" As the word went out of the king's mouth, they covered Haman's 9 face. And Harbonah, one of the chamberlains, said before the king: "Behold also, the gallows, which Haman hath made for Mordecai, who spake for the good of the king, standeth in the house of Haman fifty cubits high." Then 10 the king said: "Hang him thereon." So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then was the king's wrath pacified.

1 CHAP. VIII.—On that day did the king Ahasuerus give the house of Haman, the adversary of the Jews, unto Esther the queen. And Mordecai came before the king; for Esther 2 had told what he was unto her. And the king took off his ring, which he had taken from Haman, and gave it unto Mordecai. And Esther set Mordecai over the house of Haman.

3 And Esther spake yet again before the king, and fell down at his feet, and besought him with tears to put away the evil doing of Haman the Agagite, and his device that he 4 had devised against the Jews. Then the king held out the golden sceptre toward Esther. So Esther arose and stood 5 before the king, and said: "If it please the king, and if I have found favour in his sight, and the thing be right before the king, and I be pleasing in his eyes, let it be written to reverse the letters devised by Haman, the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, which he wrote to destroy the Jews, which 6 are in all the king's provinces; for how can I endure to see the evil that shall come unto my people? or how can I endure to see the destruction of my kindred?"

7 Then the king Ahasuerus said unto Esther the queen, and to Mordecai the Jew: "Behold, I have given Esther the house of Haman, and him they have hanged upon the gallows, because he laid his hand upon the Jews. Write ye also for the Jews, as it seemeth good to you, in the king's name, and seal it with the king's ring: for the writing which is written in the king's name, and sealed with the king's ring, may no man reverse."

9 Then were the king's scribes called at that time in the third month, that is, the month Sivan, on the twenty-third

day thereof; and it was written according to all that Mordecai commanded, unto the Jews, and to the satraps, and the governors and princes of the provinces, which are from India unto Ethiopia, a hundred and twenty-seven provinces, unto every province according to the writing thereof, and unto every people according to their language, and to the Jews according to their writing, and according to their language.

And he wrote in the king Ahasuerus' name, and sealed it ¹⁰ with the king's ring; and sent letters by runners on horseback, and riders on swift horses, and mules the offspring of mares; wherein the king granted the Jews which were in ¹¹ every city to gather themselves together, and to stand for their life, to destroy, to slay, and to cause to perish, all the power of the people and province that would assault them, little ones, and women, and *to take* the spoil of them for a prey, upon one day in all the provinces of king Ahasuerus, ¹² *namely*, upon the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month Adar.

A copy of the writing to be given for a decree in every ¹³ province, was published unto all the peoples, and that the Jews should be ready against that day to avenge themselves on their enemies. So the runners that rode upon swift horses, ¹⁴ and mules, went forth, being hastened and urged on by the king's commandment. And the decree was given in Shushan the palace.

And Mordecai went out from the presence of the king in ¹⁵ royal apparel of purple and white, and with a great crown of gold, and with a robe of fine linen and crimson: and the city of Shushan rejoiced and was glad. The Jews had light, and ¹⁶ gladness, and joy, and honour. And in every province, and ¹⁷ in every city, whithersoever the king's commandment and his decree came, the Jews had gladness and joy, a feast and a good day. And many of the peoples of the land became Jews; for the fear of the Jews fell upon them.

CHAP. IX.—Now in the twelfth month, that is, the ¹ month Adar, on the thirteenth day of the same, when the king's commandment and his decree were about to be put in execution, in the day that the enemies of the Jews hoped to have power over them, (though it was turned to the contrary, that the Jews had power over them that hated them,) the ² Jews gathered themselves together in their cities throughout all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus, to lay hands on them

that sought their hurt : and no man could withstand them ;
3 for the fear of them fell upon all people. And all the princes
of the provinces, and the satraps, and the governors, and
those who did the business of the king, helped the Jews ;
4 because the fear of Mordecai fell upon them. For Mordecai
was great in the king's house, and his fame went out
throughout all the provinces ; for this man Mordecai became
greater and greater.

5 Thus the Jews smote all their enemies with the stroke of
the sword, and slaughter, and destruction, and did what they
6 would unto those that hated them. And in Shushan the
7 palace the Jews slew and destroyed five hundred men. And
8 they slew Parshandatha, and Dalphon, and Aspatha, and Po-
9 ratha, and Adalia, and Aridatha, and Parmashta, and Arisai,
10 and Aridai, and Vajezatha, the ten sons of Haman the son of
Hammedatha, the adversary of the Jews ; but on the spoil
they laid not their hand.

11 On that day the number of those that were slain in Shu-
12 shan the palace was brought before the king. And the king
said unto Esther the queen : "The Jews have slain and de-
stroyed five hundred men in Shushan the palace, and the ten
sons of Haman ; what have they done in the rest of the
king's provinces ? now what is thy petition ? and it shall be
granted thee : or what is thy request further ? and it shall be
done."

13 Then said Esther : "If it please the king, let it be granted
to the Jews who are in Shushan to do to-morrow also ac-
cording to this day's decree, and let Haman's ten sons be
14 hanged upon the gallows." And the king commanded it so
to be done : and the decree was given at Shushan ; and they
15 hanged Haman's ten sons. For the Jews that were in Shu-
shan gathered themselves together on the fourteenth day also
of the month Adar, and slew three hundred men in Shushan ;
but on the spoil they laid not their hand.

16 And the other Jews that were in the king's provinces
gathered themselves together, and stood for their lives, and
had rest from their enemies, and slew of them that hated
them seventy-five thousand, (but they laid not their hands
17 on the spoil,) on the thirteenth day of the month Adar ; and
on the fourteenth day of the same they rested, and made it
18 a day of feasting and gladness. But the Jews that were at
Shushan assembled together on the thirteenth day thereof,
and on the fourteenth thereof ; and on the fifteenth day of

the same they rested, and made it a day of feasting and gladness. Therefore the Jews of the open country, that dwelt in 19 the country towns, made the fourteenth day of the month Adar a day of gladness and feasting, and a good day, and sent portions one to another.

And Mordecai wrote these things, and sent letters unto 20 all the Jews that were in all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus, far and near, to establish *this* among them, that they 21 should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar, and the fifteenth day of the same, yearly, as the days wherein the 22 Jews had rest from their enemies, and the month which was turned for them from sorrow to joy, and from mourning into a good day : that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, and of sending portions one to another, and gifts to the poor. And the Jews undertook to do as they 23 had begun, and as Mordecai had written unto them ; because 24 Haman the son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, the adversary of all the Jews, had devised against the Jews to destroy them, and had cast Pur, that is, the lot, to overthrow them, and to destroy them ; but when *Esther* came before the king, he 25 commanded by letters that his wicked device, which he devised against the Jews, should return upon his own head, and that he and his sons should be hanged on the gallows. Wherefore they called these days Purim, after the name of 26 Pur. Wherefore, according to all the words of this letter, and what they had seen concerning this matter, and what had come unto them, the Jews established and undertook 27 for themselves, and for their seed, and for all such as joined themselves unto them, so that it should not fail, that they should keep these two days according to their writing, and according to their stated time, every year ; and that these 28 days should be remembered and kept throughout every generation, every family, every province, and every city ; and that these days of Purim should not fail from among the Jews, nor the remembrance of them perish from their seed.

Then Esther the queen, the daughter of Abihail, and 29 Mordecai the Jew, wrote with all authority, to confirm this second letter of Purim. And he sent letters unto all the 30 Jews, to the hundred and twenty-seven provinces of the kingdom of Ahasuerus, with words of peace and truth, to 31 confirm these days of Purim in their stated times, according as Mordecai the Jew and Esther the queen had established for them, and as they had established for themselves and

for their seed, *in* the matters of the fastings and their cry.
32 And the commandment of Esther confirmed these matters
of Purim; and it was written in the book.

1 CHAP. X.—And the king Ahasuerus laid a tribute upon
2 the land, and upon the isles of the sea. And all the acts of
his power and of his might, and the declaration of the great-
ness of Mordecai, whereunto the king advanced him, are
3 they not written in the Book of the Annals of the kings
of Media and Persia? For Mordecai the Jew was next unto
king Ahasuerus, and great among the Jews, and accepted of
the multitude of his brethren, seeking the good of his people,
and speaking peace to all his seed.

THE BOOK OF JOB.

CHAP. I.—There was, in the land of Uz, a man whose 1 name was Job ; and this man was perfect and upright, and one who feared God, and turned aside from evil. And there 2 were born to him seven sons and three daughters. And his 3 possessions were seven thousand sheep, and three thousand camels, and five hundred yoke of oxen, and five hundred sheasses, and a very numerous household ; so that this man was greater than all the sons of the East.

Now his sons were accustomed to go and feast in the 4 house of him whose birth-day it was, when they sent and invited their three sisters to eat and to drink with them. And 5 as the days of their feasting came round, Job sent for them, that he might sanctify them ; and he arose early in the morning, and offered burnt-offerings according to the number of them all ; for Job said : “Perhaps my sons have sinned, and renounced God in their hearts.” In this manner did Job on all these days.

Now on a certain day the sons of God went to present 6 themselves before Jehovah, and the Satan also went amongst them. And Jehovah said to the Satan : “Whence comest 7 thou ?” And the Satan answered Jehovah, and said, “From going about in the earth, and from walking through it.” And 8 Jehovah said to the Satan : “Hast thou attentively observed my servant Job, that there is no one like him in the earth, a man perfect and upright, fearing God, and turning aside from evil ?” And the Satan answered Jehovah, and said : “Doth 9 Job fear God for nothing ? Hast thou not made a fence 10 about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath, on every side ? The work of his hand thou hast blessed, and

11 his cattle have spread abroad in the land. But put forth thy hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will renounce thee to thy face." And Jehovah said to the Satan : " Lo, all that he hath is in thy power, only upon himself put not forth thy hand." Then the Satan went out from the presence of Jehovah.

13 Now on a certain day his sons and his daughters were eating and drinking wine in the house of their eldest brother.

14 And a messenger came to Job, and said : " The oxen were plowing, and the she-asses were feeding near them ; and the Sabæans rushed upon them, and carried them away, and smote the young men with the edge of the sword ; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee."

16 He was yet speaking, when another came, and said : " The fire of God hath fallen from the heavens, and burned the sheep, and the young men, and consumed them ; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee."

17 He was yet speaking, when another came, and said : " The Chaldæans formed themselves in three troops, and rushed upon the camels, and carried them away, and smote the young men with the edge of the sword ; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee."

18 He was yet speaking, when another came, and said : " Thy sons and thy daughters were eating and drinking in the house of their eldest brother ; when, lo, a great wind came from the desert, and struck the four corners of the house ; and it fell upon the youths, so that they are dead, and I only am escaped alone to tell thee."

20 Then Job arose, and rent his mantle, and shaved his head, 21 and fell upon the ground, and bowed his head, and said :

" Naked came I forth from my mother's womb,
And naked shall I return thither.

Jehovah gave, and Jehovah hath taken away ;
Blessed be the name of Jehovah."

22 In all this Job sinned not, and spake not foolishly against God.

1 CHAP. II.—Now on a certain day the sons of God went to present themselves before Jehovah, and the Satan also went amongst them to present himself before Jehovah. And Jehovah said to the Satan : " Whence comest thou ?" And the Satan answered Jehovah, and said : " From going about in the earth, and from walking through it." And Jehovah said to

the Satan : "Hast thou attentively observed my servant Job, that there is no one like him in the earth, a man perfect and upright, fearing God and turning aside from evil, and still holding fast his integrity, although thou movedst me to ruin him, without cause?"

And the Satan answered Jehovah, and said : "Skin after 4 skin, and all that a man hath, he will give for his life : but 5 put forth thy hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, he will renounce thee to thy face." And Jehovah said to the 6 Satan : "Lo, he is in thy power ; only preserve his life."

Then the Satan went out from the presence of Jehovah, 7 and smote Job with a grievous ulcerous inflammation from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. And he took a 8 potsherd to scrape himself with it, and he sat amongst the ashes. Then his wife said to him : "Dost thou still hold 9 fast thine integrity ? Renounce God, and die." But he said to 10 her : "Thou speakest as one of the foolish women speaketh. Shall we indeed receive good from God, and shall we not receive evil ?" In all this Job sinned not with his lips.

And three friends of Job heard of all this evil which had 11 befallen him, and they came each from his place ; Eliphaz the Temanite, and Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite : for they had agreed together to come to mourn with him, and to comfort him. And they lifted up their eyes 12 from afar, and knew him not ; and they raised their voices and wept ; and they rent each his mantle, and they threw dust over their heads towards the heavens. And they sat 13 down with him on the ground seven days and seven nights ; and no one spake to him a word, for they saw that his grief was exceedingly great.

CHAP. III.—At length Job opened his mouth, and cursed 1 the day of his *birth*; and Job spake and said : 2

"Perish the day in which I was born ! 3

And the night which said, 'A male child is conceived.'

That day ! may it be darkness ! 4

May not God seek for it from above !

Nor may the noon-day light shine forth upon it !

May darkness and the shadow of death claim it !

May a cloud settle over it !

May the thickest gloom of day terrify it !

That night ! may thick darkness seize it ;

May it not make one among the days of the year ! 6

- Into the number of the months may it not enter !
 7 Lo, that night ! may it be barren ;
 May not rejoicing come upon it !
 8 May they curse it who execrate the day,
 Who are expert to rouse the leviathan !
 9 May the stars of its twilight be darkened !
 May it look for light, but may there be none,
 And may it not see the eyelids of the dawn !
 10 Because it closed not the doors of my *mother's* womb,
 Nor hid trouble from mine eyes.
 11 Why died I not from my *mother's* womb,
 And expired when I came forth from the womb,
 12 Why were the knees ready for me,
 And why the breasts, that I might suck ?
 13 For now I should have been lying down and I should have
 been quiet ;
 I should have been asleep, and then I should have been at
 rest,
 14 With kings and counsellors of the earth,
 Who built for themselves desolate places ;
 15 Or with princes who had gold,
 Who filled their houses with silver ;
 16 Or, like an untimely hidden birth, I should not have been ;
 Like infants who have not seen the light.
 17 There the wicked cease from troubling,
 And there the wearied are at rest :
 18 The prisoners are at ease together ;
 They hear not the voice of the task-master :
 19 Small and great are there,
 And the servant set free from his master.
- 20 Why giveth He light to the miserable,
 And life to the bitter in soul,
 21 Who long for death, but it cometh not,
 And would dig for it more than for hidden treasures ;
 22 Who would rejoice to exultation,
 Who would leap for joy could they find a grave ;
 23 To the man whose path is hidden,
 And whom God hath fenced around ?
 24 For as my food, my sighings cometh,
 And like water, my roarings are poured forth.
 25 For the fear, of which I am afraid, cometh upon me
 And that which I dread reacheth me.

I am not in peace, nor am I in quietness,
Nor am I at rest ; but trouble cometh."

26

CHAP. IV.—Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered and said :

" If one attempt to speak to thee, wilt thou be weary ? 2
 Yet who can refrain from speaking ?
 Lo ! thou hast instructed many, 3
 And the weak hands thou hast strengthened.
 Him who was stumbling thy words have upholden, 4
 And the feeble knees thou hast made firm.
 But now it is come upon thee, and thou art wearied ; 5
 It hath reached thee, and thou art troubled.
 Is not thy piety thy confidence, 6
 Thy hope also the uprightness of thy ways ?
 Recollect, I pray thee ; who is the innocent man that hath 7
 perished,
 And where have the righteous been cut off ?
 So far as I have seen, the plowers of sorrow, 8
 And the sowers of trouble, reap the same :
 By the blast of God they perish, 9
 And by the wind of his anger they are consumed.
 The roaring of the lion, and the voice of the devouring lion, 10
 And the teeth of the young lions are broken.
 The old lion perisheth for lack of prey, 11
 And the whelps of the lioness are scattered abroad.

Now, a word was secretly conveyed to me, 12
 And mine ear received the whisper thereof,
 Amidst troubled thoughts from the visions of the night, 13
 When deep sleep had fallen upon men.
 Fear came upon me and trembling, 14
 And made all my bones to shake.
 Then a spirit passed before my face ; 15
 The hair of my flesh stood erect.
 There stood—but I could not discern its form—
 An image before mine eyes :
 There was stillness ; then I heard a voice,
 ' Shall mortal man be deemed just by God ? 17
 Shall a man be deemed pure by his Maker ?
 Lo, in his servants he putteth no trust ;
 And to his angels he imputeth folly :
 How much more to those who dwell in houses of clay ! 19

Whose foundation is in the dust,
Who are crushed like the moth !
 20 From morning till evening they are beaten down ;
While no one regards *it*, they perish for ever.
 21 Is not the excellency that was in them taken away ?
They die, and without wisdom.'

- 1 CHAP. V.—“Call now ; Is there any one who will answer
thee ?
And to which of the Holy Ones wilt thou turn ?
 2 Truly, impatience slayeth the foolish man,
And envy killeth the simple.
 3 I have seen the foolish man taking root,
But suddenly I cursed his habitation :
 4 His children were far from safety,
And they were crushed in the gate, and there was no one
that delivered *them* ;
 5 Whose harvest the famished devoured ;
Even from the thorns he carried it away,
And the robber swallowed up their substance.
- 6 Surely, sorrow cometh not forth from the dust,
Nor from the ground doth trouble spring up.
 7 Surely, man is born to trouble,
As birds of prey soar aloft in flight.
 8 Truly I would betake myself unto God,
And to God I would commit my cause ;
 9 Who doeth great and unsearchable things,
And wonders without number ;
 10 Who poureth forth rain on the earth,
And sendeth waters upon the fields ;
 11 Who setteth up the depressed on high ;
And the mourners are exalted into safety.
 12 He frustrateth the designs of the crafty,
So that their hands cannot accomplish their design ;
 13 Taking the wise in their own craftiness,
So that the counsel of the subtle cometh hastily to an end.
 14 In the day-time they encounter darkness,
And in the noonday, they grope as in the night.
 15 But he saveth the desolate from their mouth,
And from the hand of the strong, the needy ;
 16 That the poor man may have hope,
And iniquity may stop her mouth.

Lo, happy is the man whom God correcteth ! 17
 The chastening of the Almighty therefore despise not.
 For he woundeth, and he bindeth up ; 18
 He smiteth, and his hands make whole.
 In six distresses he will deliver thee ; 19
 And in seven, evil shall not reach thee.
 In famine he will redeem thee from death, 20
 And in battle from the power of the sword.
 From the scourge of the tongue thou shalt be hidden ; 21
 And thou shalt not be afraid of destruction when it
 cometh.
 At devastation and at famine thou shalt laugh ; 22
 And of the beasts of the earth thou shalt not be afraid.
 For with the stones of the field shall be thy covenant ; 23
 And the beasts of the field shall be at peace with thee.
 And thou shalt know that thy tent is prosperous ; 24
 And thou shalt visit thy folds, and shalt not be disap-
 pointed :
 And thou shalt know that thy seed is numerous, 25
 And thine offspring as the grass of the field.
 Thou shalt go in full age to the grave, 26
 As a sheaf of corn goeth up in its season.
 Lo this, we have searched it out ; so it is ; 27
 Hear it, and know it for thyself."

CHAP. VI.—Then Job answered and said : 1
 " Oh that my impatience were carefully weighed, 2
 And my calamity laid with it in the balance !
 For now would it be found heavier than the sand of the s
 sea :
 Therefore are my words vehement.
 For the arrows of the Almighty are fixed in me, 4
 The poison of which drinketh up my spirit :
 The terrors of God are arrayed against me.
 Doth the wild ass bray in the midst of herbage, 5
 Or loweth the ox over his fodder ?
 Can that which is insipid be eaten without salt, 6
 Or is there any taste in the white of an egg ?
 My soul refuses to touch *them*. 7
 They are like my sorrowful food.
 Oh that my request might come, 8
 And that God would grant my earnest desire !
 Even that God would be pleased to destroy me ; 9

- That he would let loose his hand and cut me off.
 10 Then should I yet have comfort ;
 I would even leap for joy in the sorrow which he spareth
 not :
 For I have not neglected the words of the Holy One.
 11 What is my strength that I should hope ?
 And what my end that I should be patient ?
 12 Is my strength the strength of stones ?
 Is my flesh brass ?
 13 Rather am I not without help,
 And is not safety driven away from me ?
 14 As for him who withholdeth pity from a friend,
 He will even forsake the fear of the Almighty.
 15 My brethren have proved deceitful as a torrent,
 As torrent-streams they have passed away ;
 16 Which are turbid from ice,
 In which snow hath concealed itself.
 17 As soon as they grow warm they disappear ;
 By the heat they are destroyed from their place.
 18 Caravans turn aside from their road ;
 They go up into the waste and perish.
 19 The caravans of Tema look towards them,
 The companies of Sheba are in expectation from them.
 20 They are ashamed to have trusted in them ;
 They go thither and are abashed.
 21 For now ye are nothing ;
 Ye see *my* distress, and are afraid.
 22 Have I indeed said, 'Give ye to me' ?
 Or, 'From your wealth make a present for me' ?
 23 Or, 'Rescue me from the power of the enemy,
 And from the power of the oppressors redeem me' ?
 24 Instruct me, and I will be silent ;
 And cause me to understand how I have erred.
 25 How forcible are right words !
 But what doth reproof from you reprove ?
 26 Do ye think of reproving *my* words ?—
 But *mere* wind are the words of one who is desperate.
 27 Truly over the orphan ye cast *a net*,
 And ye dig *a pitfall* for your friend.
 28 But now let it please you to look upon me,
 And it will be evident to you if I speak falsely.
 29 Return, I pray ; let there be no unfairness ;
 Return ; my righteousness is still in *the cause*.

c c 2

Is there iniquity in my tongue ?
Cannot my palate discern calamity ?

30

CHAP. VII.—“ Is there not a service appointed for man :
upon earth ;
And are not his days as the days of a hireling ?
As a servant panteth for the shade, 2
And as a hireling earnestly desireth his wages,
So I am made to inherit months of vanity, 3
And wearisome nights are numbered out to me.
When I lie down, I say, 4
‘ When shall I arise ? ’ but the darkness is prolonged,
And I am full of tossings till the dawn.
My flesh is clothed with worms and clotted dust, 5
My skin is broken and dissolved away.
My days are swifter than a shuttle, 6
And are ended by the failing of the thread.
Remember that my life is wind : 7
Mine eye will no more see good.
The eye of him who *now* seeth me, will not behold me,
Thine eyes will be upon me, but I shall not be.
The cloud is dissolved and vanisheth away ; 9
So he that goeth down to the grave, shall not come up.
He shall return no more to his house, 10
Nor shall his place own him again any more.
Therefore I will not restrain my mouth ; 11
I will speak in the distress of my spirit,
I will complain in the bitterness of my soul.
Am I a sea or a sea-monster, 12
That thou shouldest appoint over me a watch ?
When I say, ‘ My couch shall comfort me, 13
My bed shall lessen my complaining ; ’
Then thou affrightest me with dreams, 14
And with visions thou terrifiest me.
So that I would choose strangling, 15
And death rather than this skeleton.
I loathe *life* ; I would not live for ever ;
Cease from me, for my days are vanity.
What is man, that thou shouldest magnify him, 17
And that thou shouldest fix thy thoughts upon him ?
And that thou shouldest inspect him every morning,
That at every moment thou shouldest try him ?
How long wilt thou not look away from me, 19

- Nor give me respite while I swallow my spittle ?
 20 If I have sinned, what have I done to thee,
 O thou observer of man ?
 Why hast thou set me up as a mark for thee,
 So that I am a burden to myself ?
 21 And why dost thou not take away my transgression,
 And cause mine iniquity to pass away ?
 For soon shall I lie down in the dust ;
 Even shouldest thou seek me earnestly, I shall not
 be."

- 1 CHAP. VIII.—Then answered Bildad the Shuhite, and said :
 2 " How long wilt thou utter these things,
 And the words of thy mouth be a vehement wind ?
 3 Shall God pervert judgment ?
 Or shall the Almighty pervert justice ?
 4 If thy children have sinned against him,
 And he hath sent them away in the power of their trans-
 gressions ;
 5 If thou wouldest earnestly seek to God,
 And to the Almighty make supplication ;
 6 If thou thyself be pure and upright,
 Surely now he will rise up for thee,
 And prosper thy righteous habitation ;
 7 So that thy former state should be small,
 And thy latter state become exceedingly great.
 8 For ask, now, the former generation,
 And set thyself to search their fathers :
 9 (For we are of yesterday and know nothing,
 Since a shadow are our days upon earth :)
 10 Will not they teach thee, speak to thee,
 And from their understanding utter sayings ?
 11 Can the reed flourish without moisture,
 Can the sedge grow without water ?
 12 While it is yet swelling, though it be not cut down,
 Yet before all herbs it will wither :
 13 Such are the ways of all who forget God ;
 So the hope of the profane perisheth ;
 14 Whose confidence is cut off,
 And whose trust is the spider's house.
 15 He shall lean upon his house, but it shall not stand :
 He shall take fast hold of it, but it shall not endure.

Full of sap is he before the sun, 16
 And through his garden his sucker shooteth forth.
 About a heap his roots entwine, 17
 A house of stones he seeth.
 When He shall have dried him up from his place, 18
 Then it shall deny him, 'I have not seen thee.'
 Lo, this is the joy of his way, 19
 And from the dust others shall grow.
 Lo, God will not reject a perfect man, 20
 Nor will he support by his hand those who do evil.
 He will yet fill thy mouth with laughter, 21
 And thy lips with the shout of joy.
 They who hate thee shall be clothed with shame; 22
 And the tent of the wicked shall not be."

CHAP. IX.—Then Job answered and said : 1
 "Truly I know that it is so : 2
 For how can a man be justified with God ?
 If he desireth to contend with him, 3
 He cannot answer him as to one *charge* in a thousand.
 Wise in heart, and mighty in strength, 4
 Who hath hardened himself against him and prospered ?
 Who removeth mountains, and they know not ; 5
 Who overturneth them in his anger ;
 Who maketh the earth to tremble from its place, 6
 So that its pillars shake with fear.
 Who commandeth the sun, and it riseth not, 7
 And upon the stars setteth a seal ;
 Who boweth down the heavens alone, 8
 And walketh upon the heights of the sea."
 Who made the Bear, Orion, 9
 The Pleiades also, and the inner chambers of the south ;
 Who doeth great things which cannot be searched, 10
 And wonderful things without number.
 Lo, he cometh against me, but I cannot see *him* ; 11
 And he striketh me through, but I cannot perceive *him*.
 Lo, he seizeth, who shall make him restore ? 12
 Who shall say to him, 'What doest thou ?'
 God will not turn away his anger, 13
 Under him the helpers of pride bow down.
 How much less should I answer him, 14
 Even should I carefully choose my words with *him* ?
 Whom, though I were righteous, I would not answer ; 15

- To my judge I would make supplication.
 16 Should I cite, and he answer me,
 I could not be confident that he would listen to my voice ;
 17 Who with a tempest dasheth me to pieces,
 And multiplieth my wounds without cause.
 18 He suffereth me not to draw my breath,
 But he filleth me with bitterness.
 19 If by force, *I would contend*, he is strong ;
 If by judgment—who shall appoint him a day ?
 20 Though I were just, my mouth would condemn me ;
 Though perfect, it would make me perverse.
 21 I am perfect; do I not know myself ?
 Shall I contemn my own life ?
 22 It is *all* one—therefore I said,
 The perfect and the wicked he destroyeth.
 23 If the scourge slay the simple,
 The dissolution of the innocent he also mocketh.
 24 A land is given into the hand of the wicked,
 The faces of its judges he covereth :
 If now it be not he, who is it ?
- 25 My days are swifter than a courier;
 They have fled away, they have not seen good.
 26 They pass on like vessels of reed ;
 As an eagle darteth on the prey.
 27 When I say, ‘I will forget my complaint,
 I will lay aside my sad countenance and look cheerful ;
 28 I am terrified by all my griefs ;
 I know that thou wilt not acquit me.
 29 I shall be treated as guilty ;
 Why, then, should I thus labour in vain ?
 30 Should I wash myself in snow-water,
 And cleanse my hands with soap ;
 31 Then wouldest thou plunge me into a pit,
 So that my garments would abhor me.
 32 For he is not a man like myself, that I should answer him,
 That we should enter together on a trial.
 33 There is not between us an umpire,
 Who might put his hand upon us both.
 34 Let him remove from off me his rod,
 And let not the fear of him terrify me ;
 35 Then will I speak and not be afraid of him,
 When I am not as I now am.

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| CHAP. X.—“ My soul is weary of my life : | 1 |
| I will give free course to my complaint ; | |
| I will speak in the bitterness of my soul. | |
| I will say to God, ‘ Condemn me not : | 2 |
| Shew me wherefore thou contendest with me. | |
| Is it good for thee to oppress, | 3 |
| To despise the labour of thy hands, | |
| And to shine upon the counsels of the wicked ? | |
| Hast thou eyes of flesh ? | 4 |
| As man seeth, seest thou ? | |
| As the days of man, are thy days ? | 5 |
| Are thy years as the days of man, | |
| That thou shouldest inquire into mine iniquity, | 6 |
| And search after my sin ; | |
| Though thou knowest that I am not guilty, | 7 |
| And that there is no one who can deliver from thy hand ? | |
| Thy hands have fashioned me, and made me | 8 |
| Compactly on all sides ; and wouldest thou destroy me ? | |
| Remember, I pray thee, that thou hast made me as clay, | 9 |
| And to the dust wilt thou bring me again ? | |
| Hast thou not poured me out as milk, | 10 |
| And curdled me as cheese ? | |
| With skin and flesh thou hast clothed me, | 11 |
| And with bones and sinews thou hast framed me : | |
| Life and favour thou hast granted to me, | 12 |
| And thy watchfulness preserveth my breath. | |
| Yet these things thou hast treasured up in thy heart, | 13 |
| I know that this has been thy purpose. | |
| If I had sinned, thou wouldest have marked me, | 14 |
| And from mine iniquity thou wouldest not have acquitted
me. | |
| If I were wicked, woe unto me ! | 15 |
| And righteous as I am, I cannot lift up my head ; | |
| Filled with disgrace, and beholding my affliction ! | |
| If it were lifted up, as a lion thou wouldest hunt me ; | 16 |
| And repeatedly shew thyself wonderful against me. | |
| Thou wouldest renew thine attacks upon me, | 17 |
| And increase thine indignation towards me ; | |
| Hosts in succession would come against me. | |
| Why then didst thou bring me forth from the womb ? | 18 |
| I should have expired, and no eye have seen me. | |
| I should have been as though I had not been ; | 19 |
| From the womb to the grave I should have been carried. | |

20 Are not my days few ? Cease, then,
 And leave me, that I may be joyful for a little while,
 21 Before I go away, not to return,
 To a land of darkness and the shadow of death ;
 22 A land of obscurity, as the thickest darkness ;
 Of the shadow of death, and without order,
 And where *even* what shineth, is as the thickest darkness.””

- 1 CHAP. XI.—Then Zophar the Naamathite answered and said :
- 2 “Shall not one of many words be answered ?
 Or shall a man full of talk be justified ?
- 3 Shall thy vain boasts put men to silence ?
 And shalt thou mock, and no one make thee ashamed ?
- 4 Now thou hast said, ‘My doctrine is pure,
 And I am clean in thine eyes.’
- 5 But Oh that God would speak,
 And open his lips with thee !
- 6 And that he would shew thee the secrets of wisdom,
 For they are doubly *sufficient* for instruction :
 Then wouldest thou know that God remitteth to thee of
 thine iniquity.
- 7 The deep things of God canst thou find out ?
 Canst thou find out the Almighty to perfection ?
- 8 The heights of the heavens ! what canst thou do ?
 Deeper than the grave ! what canst thou know ?
- 9 Longer than the earth is its measure,
 And wider than the sea.
- 10 If he assail, and bind,
 And bring before the assembly, then who can make him
 restore ?
- 11 For he knoweth men of falsehood ;
 And he seeth iniquity ; will he not then take notice of it ?
- 12 That the foolish man may become wise,
 And the colt of the wild ass may become a man.
- 13 If thou wilt prepare thy heart,
 And spread out to him thy hands ;
- 14 If thou put away the iniquity in thy hand,
 And suffer not wickedness to dwell in thy tents,
- 15 Surely thou shalt then lift up thy face without spot ;
 And thou shalt be steadfast, and shalt not fear :
- 16 Surely thou shalt forget trouble ;
 As waters that have passed away thou shalt remember it.

And brighter than noon shall be thine age ; 17
 Though thou be *now* in darkness, thou shalt be as the
 morning.
 And thou shalt be secure, because there will be hope ; 18
 And though *now* ashamed, thou shalt take thy rest in
 security.
 Thou shalt lie down, and none shall make thee afraid ; 19
 And the mighty shall entreat thy favour.
 But the eyes of the wicked shall fail, 20
 And their means of escape shall perish,
 And their hope *shall be* a puff of breath.”

CHAP. XII.—Then Job answered and said :
 “Truly ye are the people, 2
 And with you wisdom will die.
 Yet I have understanding like you ; 3
 I fall not below you :
 And who knoweth not such things as these ?
 One derided by his friend am I ; 4
 One who called on God and he heard him :
 Derided is the just, the perfect man !
 Calamity is despised ; prosperity is at ease ; 5
 They who are slipping with their feet are smitten.
 Prosperous are the tents of plunderers, 6
 And they are secure who provoke God ;
 Into whose hand God bringeth *substance*.
 But ask, now, the beasts, and they will teach thee ; 7
 And the fowls of the heavens, and they will tell thee.
 Or consider the earth, and it will teach thee ; 8
 And the fishes of the sea will declare to thee.
 Who knoweth not as to all these things,
 That the hand of God hath made them ? 9
 In whose hand is the soul of every living creature, 10
 And the breath of all mankind.
 Doth not the ear prove words,
 As the palate tasteth its food ? 11
 With the aged is wisdom ; 12
 And length of days is understanding.
 With Him is wisdom and might ; 13
 He hath counsel and understanding.
 Lo, he overthroweth, and it shall not be rebuilt ; 14
 He bindeth a man, and he shall not be set free.
 Lo, he restraineth the waters, and they dry up ; 15

- He also sendeth them forth, and they overturn the earth.
 16 With him is strength and safety :
 The misled and the misleader are his.
 17 He leadeth away counsellors spoiled,
 And judges he maketh foolish.
 18 The girdle of kings he looseneth,
 And bindeth a belt about their loins.
 19 He leadeth priests away spoiled,
 And overthroweth the powerful.
 20 He removeth the speech of the eloquent,
 And the discernment of elders he taketh away.
 21 He poureth contempt upon princes,
 And the girdle of the powerful he looseneth.
 22 He revealeth deep things out of darkness,
 And bringeth forth to light the shadow of death.
 23 He maketh nations to increase, and he destroyeth them :
 He enlargeth nations, and he leadeth them away captive.
 24 He taketh away understanding from the chiefs of a land,
 And causeth them to wander in a pathless waste :
 25 They grope in darkness without light,
 And he causeth them to reel like a drunken man.

- 1 CHAP. XIII.—“ Lo, all this mine eye hath seen,
 Mine ear hath heard and understood it.
 2 As ye know, I also know ;
 I fall not below you.
 3 Truly I would plead with the Almighty,
 And to contend with God I earnestly desire :
 4 Since truly ye are forgers of lies ;
 Physicians of no value are ye all.
 5 Oh that ye would be altogether silent !
 For that would be your wisdom.
 6 Hear now my defence,
 And attend to the pleadings of my lips.
 7 Will ye speak wickedly for God ?
 And for him will ye speak falsely ?
 8 Will ye accept his person ?
 Will ye contend for God ?
 9 Will it be well *for you* when he shall prove you ?
 As man is deceived, will ye deceive him ?
 10 He will severely reprove you,
 If in secret ye accept persons.
 11 Shall not his majesty make you afraid,

And the dread of him fall upon you ?	
Your remembrances are maxims of ashes,	12
Bulwarks of clay are your bulwarks.	
Be silent; interrupt me not, and I will speak ;	13
Happen to me what will.	
Wherefore shall I carry my flesh in my teeth,	14
And put my life in my hand ?	
Lo, he will slay me ; I can have no hope ;	15
Yet my way I will vindicate to his face.	
Truly this would be my deliverance :	16
For into his presence no profane person would come.	
Listen ye attentively to my speech,	17
And let my declaration <i>come</i> to your ears.	
Lo, now I have arranged my cause ;	18
I know that I shall be acquitted.	
Who is he that will contend with me ?	19
Surely I would then be silent and expire.	
Only two things do not to me ;	20
Then will I not hide myself from thee :	
Withdraw thy hand far from me,	21
And let not the fear of thee terrify me.	
Then call, and I will answer ;	22
Or I will speak, and do thou answer me.	
How many are mine iniquities and my sins ?	23
My transgressions and my sins make known to me.	
Why hidest thou thy face,	24
And accountest me an enemy to thee ?	
The driven leaf wouldest thou crush ?	25
And the parched stubble wouldest thou pursue ?	
For thou writest against me bitter things,	26
And makest me to inherit the sins of my youth ;	
And puttest my feet into the stocks,	27
And watchest all my ways ;	
On the soles of my feet thou settest a mark.	
And this <i>body</i> as a rotten thing is wasting away,	28
As a garment which the moth consumeth.	
CHAP. XIV.—“ Man, born of woman,	1
Is of few days and full of trouble.	
As a flower he springeth up and withereth ;	2
Yea, he fleeth away as a shadow, and continueth not.	
Upon such a one wilt thou open thine eyes ?	3
And wilt thou bring me into trial with thyself ?	

- 4 Who can bring a clean thing from an unclean ?
No one.
- 5 Since his days are determined,
The number of his months is with thee ;
Thou hast appointed his bounds, which he cannot pass ;
- 6 Turn from him, and let him have rest,
Till he have completed, as a hireling, his day.
- 7 For there is hope of a tree, if cut down,
That it will sprout again,
And that its shoots will not cease.
- 8 Though its root grow old in the earth,
And its stock die in the ground ;
- 9 At the scent of water it will bud,
And send forth branches as a young plant.
- 10 But man dieth, and is laid low :
Yea, man expireth, and where is he ?
- 11 As waters flow away from a lake,
And a river is dried up and exhausted ;
- 12 So man lieth down, and riseth not again :
Till the heavens be no more they shall not awake,
Nor be roused from their sleep.
- 13 Oh that thou wouldest hide me in the grave,
That thou wouldest keep me in secret till thine anger be past,
That thou wouldest appoint me a fixed time, and remember
me !
- 14 If a man die, will he live *again* ?
All the days of my appointed service I will wait,
Till my relief shall come.
- 15 Thou wilt call, and I shall answer thee.
The work of my hands thou wilt earnestly desire.
- 16 Truly now thou numberest my steps ;
Dost thou not keep watch over my sins ?
- 17 My transgression is sealed up in a bag,
And thou tiest up mine iniquities.
- 18 Yet even the mountain, falling, wastes away,
And the rock is moved from its place.
- 19 The waters wear away the stones ;
Their overflowings wash away the dust of the earth ;
So thou destroyest the hope of man :
- 20 Thou overpowerest him for ever, and he departeth ;
Changing his countenance, thou drivest him away.

His sons come to honour, but he knoweth it not ; 21
 They are brought low, but he perceiveth it not of them.
 Only over himself his flesh grieveth, 22
 And over himself his soul mourneth."

CHAP. XV.—Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered and said :

- "Should a wise man answer with empty knowledge, 2
 And fill his breast with the east wind ?
 Reasoning with speech that profiteth not, 3
 And with sayings by which he can do no good ?
 Surely thou makest reverence void, 4
 And reppresest devotion before God.
 Truly thine own mouth discovereth thine iniquity, 5
 Though thou choosest the tongue of the crafty.
 Thine own mouth condemneth thee, and not I ; 6
 And thine own lips bear witness against thee.
 Wast thou the first man born ? 7
 And before the hills wast thou formed ?
 In the council of God hast thou been a hearer ? 8
 And wouldest thou confine wisdom to thyself ?
 What knowest thou that we know not ? 9
What understandest thou, which is not with us ?
 Both the grey-headed and the aged man is with us, 10
 Surpassing thy father in years.
 Are the consolations of God of small account with thee, 11
 And words of tenderness addressed to thee ?
 Whither doth thy heart bear thee away, 12
 And why are thine eyes threatening,
 That thou turnest against God thy breath, 13
 And bringest out speeches from thy mouth ?
 What is man that he should be pure ? 14
 And that he should be just, who is born of woman ?
 Lo, in his Holy Ones he confideth not ; 15
 And the heavens are not pure in his sight.
 How much more abominable and filthy 16
 Must be man who drinketh iniquity as water.
 I will shew thee, hear me ; 17
 And that which I have seen, I will relate ;
 What wise men have declared, 18
 And have not concealed, *having received it* from their
 fathers ;
 To whom alone the land was given, 19

- And a stranger passed not among them.
- 20 ‘During all the days of a wicked man, he is in pangs ;
And the number of *his* years is hidden from the oppressor.
- 21 A sound of terrors is in his ears ;
In the midst of prosperity, the destroyer cometh upon him.
- 22 He hath no confidence that he shall escape from darkness,
But he is watched for, for the sword.
- 23 He wandereth about, food for the vulture ;
He knoweth that a day of darkness is close at hand.
- 24 Distress terrifieth him,
And anxiety presseth upon him,
As a king ready for an onset ;
- 25 Because he had stretched forth his hand against God,
And against the Almighty he had put forth his strength.
- 26 He had rushed upon him with an *outstretched* neck,
Under the thick bosses of his buckler ;
- 27 Because he had covered his face with fatness,
And had spread fat upon his loins.
- 28 But he dwelleth in cities which are to be destroyed,
In houses which shall not be inhabited,
Which are ready to become ruinous heaps.
- 29 He shall not be rich, nor shall his wealth be established,
Nor shall the prosperity of such extend itself on the earth.
- 30 He shall not escape out of darkness ;
The lightning shall wither his suckers,
And he shall be driven away by the blast of His mouth.
- 31 Let him not trust in falsehood : he will be deceived ;
For with falsehood he shall be repaid.
- 32 Before his time it shall be fulfilled,
And his branch shall not continue green.
- 33 He shall shake off, as a vine, his unripe grape,
And shall cast, as an olive, his flower.
- 34 For the assembly of the profane shall be a barren rock,
And fire shall consume the tents of bribery.
- 35 They conceive sorrow, and bring forth trouble,
And their womb engendereth deceit.’”

- 1 CHAP. XVI.—Then Job answered and said :
2 “ I have heard such things as these in abundance :
Miserable comforters are ye all !
3 Shall there be an end to words of wind ?
Or what inciteth thee that thou shouldest answer ?

I also, like you, could speak, 4
 If ye were in my place :
 I could heap together old sayings against you,
 And against you shake my head.
 I would strengthen you with my mouth, 5
 And the motion of my lips should be restrained.
 If I speak, my grief is not restrained ; 6
 And if I forbear, what *portion of it* departeth from me ?
 Truly now He wearieh me. 7
 Thou hast made desolate all my companions.
 Thou hast also bound me in fetters, *which is a witness* 8
against me,
 And he who belieth me, riseth up against me ;
 He accuseth me to my face.
 In his anger he teareth me, and pursueth me with hatred ; 9
 He gnasheth upon me with his teeth :
 Mine enemy sharpeneth his eyes against me.
 They run with open mouth upon me, 10
 With insult have they smitten me on the cheek ;
 Together they glut their rage upon me.
 God hath delivered me up to the unjust, 11
 And into the hands of wicked men he hath cast me.
 I was at ease, but he hath shattered me ; 12
 And he hath taken me by my neck, and shaken me to
 pieces ;
 And he hath set me up as a mark for himself.
 His archers compass me around : 13
 He pierceth my reins, and spareth not ;
 He poureth out my gall upon the ground.
 He breaketh me with breach upon breach ; 14
 He rusheth upon me like a mighty warrior.
 Sackcloth have I sewed upon my skin,
 And buried my horn in the dust. 15
 My face is swollen with weeping,
 And on mine eyelids is the shadow of death ; 16
 Although no injustice is in my hands,
 And my prayer is sincere. 17
 O earth, hide no blood *shed* by me,
 And let there be no limit to *its* cry against me. 18
 Even now, lo, my witness is in the heavens,
 And mine eye-witness is on high. 19
 My friends are they who scorn me ;
 Therefore to God mine eye poureth forth tears. 20

- 21 That a man might plead with God,
As a son of man *pleadeth* with his neighbour.
- 22 When a few years are come,
I must go the way by which I cannot return.
- 1 CHAP. XVII.—“ My breath is oppressed my days are extinct,
The grave is ready for me.
- 2 Surely, mockers are with me,
And on their provocations mine eye resteth.
- 3 Engage now, give me thy pledge ;
Who is he that shall strike hands with me ?
- 4 For the heart of these thou hidest from understanding ;
Therefore thou wilt not exalt them.
- 5 He who exposeth his friends to plunder,
Even the eyes of his children shall fail.
- 6 He hath set me up for a proverb among peoples,
And I am an object of contempt before them.
- 7 Therefore mine eye is dim with indignation,
And all my limbs are as a shadow.
- 8 The upright will be astonished at this,
And the innocent man will rouse himself against the profane.
- 9 Yet the just man will be strengthened in his way,
And he that is of pure hands will increase his strength.
- 10 But as for you all, though ye come again and again,
Yet I cannot find amongst you one who is wise.
- 11 My days are passed ; my purposes are broken off,
The purposes which possessed my heart.
- 12 They had changed my night into day ;
'The light is nigh,' *they said*, 'in the presence of darkness.'
- 13 Surely I expect the grave as my house ;
In darkness I shall spread my couch.
- 14 To corruption I shall say, 'My father art thou !'
'My mother and my sister,' to the worm.
- 15 Then where will be my hope ?
My hope ! who shall see it ?
- 16 To the chambers of the grave it shall go down,
Verily together we shall sink into the dust.”
- 1 CHAP. XVIII.—Then answered Bildad the Shuhite, and said :

- “ How long will ye plant snares in *your* speeches ? 9
 Understand, and then we will speak.
 Why are we accounted beasts, 3
Why thought stupid in your sight ?
 He teareth himself in his anger ! 4
 For thy sake shall the earth be forsaken,
 And the rock removed from its place ?
 Truly the light of the wicked shall be put out, 5
 And the flame of his fire shall not shine.
 The light shall be darkened in his tent, 6
 And the lamp above him shall be extinguished.
 Straitened shall be the steps of his strength, 7
 And his own counsel shall cause him to stumble.
 For he is cast into a net by his own feet, 8
 And upon its meshes he walketh.
 The snare shall take him by the heel, 9
 The springe shall hold him fast.
 The cord is hidden for him on the ground, 10
 And the trap is set for him in the path.
 On every side, terrors alarm him, 11
 And drive him to his feet.
 His strength shall be wasted by hunger, 12
 And calamity shall be close at his side.
 It shall consume the members of his body : 13
 The first-born of death shall consume his members.
 His confidence shall be rooted up from his tent ; 14
 Terrors shall march against him like a king.
 They shall dwell in his tent, because he hath none to sur- 15
 vive him :
 Brimstone shall be spread upon his habitation.
 Beneath, his root shall be dried up, 16
 And above, his branch shall be cut off.
 His remembrance shall perish from the land, 17
 And he shall have no name abroad.
 He shall be driven from light into darkness, 18
 And from the world shall he be chased away.
 Neither son nor grandson shall he have among his 19
 people,
 Nor any one left in his domains.
 At his fate posterity shall be astonished, 20
 As they who were before were seized with horror.
 These, truly, are the habitations of the impious, 21
 And this the place of him who knoweth not God.”

- 1 CHAP. XIX.—Then Job answered and said :
 2 “ How long will ye afflict my soul,
 And crush me with speeches ?
 3 These ten times have ye calumniated me ;
 Ye are not ashamed, ye harden yourselves against me.
 4 And should I, indeed, have erred,
 With myself my error abideth.
 5 Do ye, indeed, magnify yourselves against me,
 And allege against me my disgrace ?
 6 Know, then, that God hath driven me about,
 And hath cast his net around me.
 7 Lo, I cry out of wrong, but I am not heard :
 I cry aloud, but there is no justice.
 8 He hath fenced up my way, so that I cannot pass,
 And over my paths he hath put darkness.
 9 My glory he hath stripped from me,
 And he hath taken the crown from my head.
 10 He hath beaten me down on every side, and I am passing
 away ;
 And he hath rooted up my hope, as a tree ;
 11 And he hath kindled his anger against me,
 And he accounteth me among his enemies.
 12 His troops come all together,
 And fortify their way against me,
 And encamp round about my tent.
 13 My brethren he hath removed far from me,
 And my acquaintance are quite estranged.
 14 My kinsmen have deserted me,
 And my familiar friends have forgotten me.
 15 They who sojourn in my house, and my maid-servants,
 Account me a stranger :
 An alien am I in their eyes.
 16 I call to my servant, but he answereth me not,
 Though with my mouth I entreat him.
 17 My breath is offensive to my wife,
 And I am an object of loathing to the sons of my body.
 18 Even young children spurn at me ;
 I arise, and they revile me.
 19 All my bosom-friends abhor me ;
 And they whom I loved have turned against me.
 20 My bone cleaveth to my skin and my flesh,
 And I have escaped with the skin of my teeth.
 • 21 Have pity on me, have pity on me, O my friends ;

For the hand of God hath touched me. 22
 Why should ye persecute me, as God,
 And with my flesh, not be satisfied ? 23
 Oh that now my words were written ! 23
 Oh that they were inscribed in a book !
 That with an iron style, and with lead,
 They were engraven for ever, on a rock ! 24
 For I know that my Avenger liveth,
 And that at length he will rise up over the dust. 25
 And after my skin hath been thus torn,
 And without my flesh, I shall see God ;
 Whom I shall behold on my side, 26
 And mine eyes shall see, but not estranged *from me*.
 My reins are consumed within me.
 Truly ye will *then* say, ‘ Why do we pursue him, 28
 And find the root of the matter in him ? ’
 Be afraid for yourselves of the sword,
 For wrath is punished by the sword, 29
 That ye may know that there is one who judgeth.’”

CHAP. XX.—Then answered Zophar the Naamathite, and 1
 said :

“ Verily my thoughts cause me to answer, 2
 And therefore I am in haste *to speak*.
 My ignominious reproof I hear, . 3
 But the spirit of my understanding causeth me to reply.
 Knowest thou this ? From of old, 4
 From the time when man was placed on the earth,
 The triumphing of the wicked is short, 5
 And the joy of the profane *but* for a moment.
 Though his dignity should ascend to the heavens,
 And his head touch the clouds, 6
 Like his own dung he shall perish for ever :
 They who have seen him, shall say, ‘ Where is he ? ’
 Like a dream shall he fly away, and not be found ;
 And he shall be driven away as a vision of the night. 8
 The eye saw him, but it shall see him no more,
 Nor shall his place again behold him. 9
 His sons shall seek favour from the poor,
 And his own hands shall restore *the gains of* his violence. 10
 His bones are full of secret *sin*,
 And with him it shall lie down in the dust. 11
 Though wickedness be sweet in his mouth, 12

- And he hide it under his tongue ;
 13 *Though* he spare it, and desert it not,
 But keep it within his palate ;
 14 His food shall be changed in his bowels ;
 The poison of asps shall be within him.
 15 He hath swallowed wealth, but he shall vomit it up ;
 From his belly God shall cast it out.
 16 The bitter poison of asps he shall suck :
 The tongue of the viper shall slay him.
 17 He shall not see the brooks,
 The rivers, the streams of honey and of milk.
 18 He shall restore what he hath laboured for, and not swallow it :
 According to his wealth shall his restitution be, and he shall not rejoice ;
 19 Because he hath oppressed, and hath forsaken the poor,
 He hath seized on a house which he builded not.
 20 Because he hath not felt quietness in his belly,
 In his covetousness he suffered nothing to escape,
 21 Not a remnant, *to escape* his rapacity ;
 Therefore, his prosperity shall not endure :
 22 In the fulness of his abundance, distress shall befall him ;
 The hand of all the miserable shall come upon him.
 23 When he shall be filling his belly,
God shall cast upon him the fury of his wrath,
 And shall rain it upon him, while he is eating.
 24 If he flee from the weapon of iron,
 The bow of brass shall strike him through.
 25 He draweth, and it cometh out of his body ;
 Even the glittering shaft out of his gall :
 He goeth—terrors are upon him.
 26 All darkness is laid up for his treasures :
 A fire not blown shall consume him ;
 It shall devour that which is left in his tent.
 27 The heavens shall reveal his iniquity,
 And the earth shall rise up against him.
 28 The increase of his house shall roll away,
As torrents, in the day of His wrath.
 29 This is the portion of a wicked man from God,
 And the inheritance decreed for him by God.”

- 1 CHAP. XXI.—And Job answered and said :
 2 “ Listen attentively to my speech,

- And let this be your consolation.
 Bear with me while I speak, 3
 And after I have spoken, do thou mock.
 Do I *make* my complaint to man ? 4
 And if it were so, why should I not be angry ?
 Look at me, and be astonished, 5
 And put your hand upon your mouth.
 Even when I remember, I am troubled,
 And my flesh is seized with trembling. 6
- Why do the wicked live, 7
 Grow old, and become mighty in power ?
 Their seed is established in their presence, with them- 8
 selves,
 And their offspring, before their eyes.
 Their houses are safe from fear, 9
 And the rod of God is not upon them.
 Their bull gendereth, and faileth not;
 Their cow bringeth forth, and casteth not.
 They send forth their little ones like a flock,
 And their children dance. 11
 They raise *their* voice to the timbrel and the harp,
 And rejoice at the sound of the pipe.
 They wear out their days in prosperity, 13
 And in a moment go down to the grave;
 Though they had said to God, ‘Depart from us,
 For in the knowledge of thy ways we delight not.
 Who is the Almighty, that we should serve him ?’ 14
 And what profit shall we have if we pray unto him ?’
 Lo, not in their own power is their prosperity.
 (Be the counsel of the wicked far from me !)
 When is the lamp of the wicked extinguished,
 And doth destruction come upon them ? 17
 Doth He distribute sorrows in his anger;
 Are they as stubble before the wind,
 And as chaff which the storm carrieth away ? 18
- Ye will say*, ‘God layeth up for his sons his iniquity.’ 19
 He should recompense himself, that he might experience
 it.
 His own eyes should see his perdition,
 And of the poison of the Almighty he should drink. 20

- 21 For what care hath he of his house after him,
When the number of his months is completed ?
22 Can any one teach God knowledge ?
Since he ruleth those on high.
23 One man dieth in his full strength,
Wholly at ease and quiet ;
24 His sides are filled with fat,
And his bones are moist with marrow :
25 Another man dieth in the bitterness of his soul,
And tasteth not good.
26 Together they lie down in the dust,
And the worm covereth them.

- 27 Lo, I know your thoughts,
And the imaginations which ye wrongfully conceive against
me.
28 For ye say, ‘Where is the house of the noble,
And where the tent of the habitations of the wicked?’
29 Do ye not inquire of those who pass on the road,
And their testimony do ye not know,
30 That in the day of calamity, the wicked is spared,
That in the day of wrath, he is conveyed away ?
31 Who will tell him his way to his face,
And who will requite him what he hath done ?
32 Even this man is carried out to the grave,
And over the tomb he keepeth watch :
33 Sweet to him are the clods of the valley.
And after him he draweth all men,
As before him they were without number.
34 How, then, would ye comfort me with vanity,
Since as to your answers, there remaineth *in them* false-
hood ?

- 1 CHAP. XXII.—Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered and
said :
2 “Can a man be profitable to God,
Because a wise man may be profitable to himself ?
3 Can it be any pleasure to the Almighty that thou justifi-
est thyself,
Or any gain, that thou provest thy way upright ?
4 Through fear of thee, will he plead with thee ?
Will he come with thee into judgment ?
5 Is not thy wickedness great,

- And thine iniquities without end ?
 Surely thou hast taken a pledge from thy brother without cause,
 And the raiment of the naked, thou hast stripped off.
 Thou hast not given water to the weary to drink,
 And from the hungry thou hast withholden bread.
 But as for the powerful man, the land was his,
 And the man whose person was accepted dwelt in it.
 Widows thou didst send away empty,
 And the arms of orphans thou didst break.
 Therefore, snares are all around thee,
 And sudden fear troubleth thee ;
 Or darkness in which thou canst not see,
 And a flood of waters covereth thee.
- Is not God in the height of the heavens ?
 And seeth he not above the stars, though they are high ?
 Therefore, thou saidst, ‘ How can God know ? ’
 Through the thick darkness can he judge ?
 Thick clouds are his recess, so that he seeth not,
 And on the circle of the heavens he walketh.’
 Thou art keeping the old way,
 Which wicked men have trodden,
 Who were seized before their time,
 On whose habitation the flood was poured forth ;
 Who said to God, ‘ Depart from us ;
 For what can the Almighty do for us ? ’
 Yet he had filled their houses with good things.
 (But be the counsel of the wicked far from me !)
 The righteous saw it, and were glad ;
 And the innocent laughed them to scorn, *saying,*
 ‘ Surely our adversary hath been cut off ;
 And the remnant of them, fire shall consume.’
- Make Him thy friend, and be at peace :
 Thus shall thine increase become abundant.
 Receive, now, from his mouth the law,
 And lay up his words in thy heart.
 If thou wilt return to the Almighty, thou shalt be re- stored.
If thou wilt remove iniquity far from thy tent,
 Thou shalt then esteem fine gold as dust,
 And the gold of Ophir, as the pebbles of torrents ;
 And the Almighty shall be thy gold,
 And the purest silver shall be to thee.

- 26 For then thou shalt find delight in the Almighty,
And thou shalt lift up thy face to God.
 27 Thou shalt pray to him, and he will hear thee,
And thy vows thou shalt perform.
 28 And thou shalt decree a thing, and it shall be established
to thee;
And on thy way light shall shine.
 29 When any one is brought low, thou shalt say, '*Let there
be exaltation,*'
And he will save the humble.
 30 He will deliver him who is not innocent,
And he shall be delivered by the purity of thy hands.'

- 1 CHAP. XXIII.—Then Job answered and said :
 2 "Even yet is my complaint rebellion ?
My stroke is heavier than my sighing.
 3 Oh that I knew where I might find him !
I would go even to his *judgment* seat.
 4 I would order *my* cause before him,
And fill my mouth with arguments.
 5 I should know with what words he would answer me,
And I should understand what he would say to me.
 6 With *his* great power, would he contend with me ?
No ; surely he would give heed to me.
 7 There the upright might plead with him ;
And I should be delivered once for all from my judge.
 8 Lo ! I go forward, but he is not *there* ;
And backward, but I cannot perceive him ;
 9 To the left, where he worketh, but I cannot behold *him* ;
He hideth himself on the right hand, so that I cannot see
him.
 10 But he knoweth the way I pursue :
He proveth me ; as gold shall I come forth.
 11 In his paths my foot hath firmly kept ;
His way I have observed, and have not turned aside ;
 12 The orders of his lips I have not removed from me ;
In my bosom I have laid up the words of his mouth.
 13 But he is in one *mind*, and who can turn him ?
And what he desireth, he doeth.
 14 Surely he will perfect what is decreed for me ;
And many such things as these are with him.
 15 Therefore I am troubled before him ;
I attentively consider, and fear him.

For God hath made my heart faint, 16
 And the Almighty hath troubled me ;
 Because I was not cut off before *this* darkness, 17
 Nor hath he covered thick darkness from me.

CHAP. XXIV.—“ Why are not stated times set apart by 1
 the Almighty ?

And why do not they who know him, see his days ?
Some there are, who remove landmarks ; 2
 They seize upon a flock and those who tend it ;
 The ass of orphans they lead away ; 3
 They take for a pledge the ox of the widow.
 They turn aside the needy from the way : 4
 The poor of the land hide themselves together.
 Lo ! like wild mules in the wilderness, 5
 They go forth to their work,
 Searching eagerly for food :
 The desert yieldeth to each one food for his children.
 In a field not his own, every one of them reapeth, 6
 And the vintage of the wicked they gather.
 Naked they lodge without clothing ; 7
 And no covering have they in the cold.
 With the rains of the mountains, they are made wet ; 8
 And for want of shelter they embrace rocks.

Some there are, who tear away the fatherless from the 9
 breast,
 And that which is on the poor they take in pledge.
 Naked they go without clothing, 10
 And famished they carry in the sheaves.
 Within their walls, they press out oil, 11
 They tread their wine-presses, yet suffer thirst.
 From the city mortals groan, 12
 And the soul of the slain crieth out ;
 Yet God attendeth not to their prayer.

Some there are, who rebel against the light ; 13
 They know not its ways,
 And they abide not in its paths.
 At the light the murderer riseth, 14
 That he may slay the poor and needy ;
 And by night he is as a thief.
 The eye of the adulterer also watcheth for the twilight, 15

Saying, ‘No eye will see me ;’
 And he putteth a covering on his face.
 16 Another digs in darkness into houses :
 By day they closely conceal themselves ;
 They know not the light.
 17 The morning is to them as the shadow of death,
 Since to be known is the terrors of the shadow of death.
 18 Light should such be on the surface of the waters ;
 Cursed their possessions in the land !
 Nor should such go by the way of the vineyards.
 19 Drought and heat absorb the snow-waters ;
 So should the grave those who sin.
 20 The womb should forget him,
 The worms should feed sweetly on him ;
 He should be no more remembered,
 And iniquity should be broken as a tree.
 21 He should nourish a barren, childless wife,
 And to his widow, no one should do good.
 22 But He maintaineth the mighty by his power ;
 They rise, when they had no confidence in their life.
 23 He granteth every one of them to be in security, and they
 are supported ;
 Though his eyes are upon their ways.
 24 They are exalted ; in a little while they are no more,
 They pass away like all other men, they are buried ;
 And like ears of corn they are cut off.
 25 And if it be not even so, who will convict me of falsehood,
 And make my speech of no worth ?”

1 CHAP. XXV.—Then answered Bildad the Shuhite, and said :

2 “Dominion and terror are with Him ;
 He maketh retribution in his high places.
 3 Is there any number to his troops ?
 And on whom riseth not his light ?
 4 How, then, can man be justified with God ?
 Or how can he be clean who is born of woman ?
 5 Lo, even the moon, it shineth not,
 And the stars are not pure, in his sight.
 6 How much less man, a worm !
 And the son of man, an earth-worm !”

1 CHAP. XXVI.—Then Job answered and said :

“ How hast thou helped the powerless ! 2
 How hast thou saved the arm which hath no strength ! 3
 How hast thou counselled him who hath no wisdom ! 3
 And made known prudence abundantly !
 Whose speeches hast thou uttered ? 4
 And whose spirit hath come forth from thee ?

 The mighty dead are in pangs beneath ; 5
 The waters, and their inhabitants.
 The grave is naked before Him ; 6
 And there is no covering to destruction.
 He stretcheth out the north over empty space, 7
 He hangeth the earth upon nothing.
 He bindeth up the waters in his thick clouds, 8
 So that the cloud is not rent under them ;
 Withdrawing the face of his throne, 9
 Spreading over it his cloud.
 He hath described a circle on the surface of the waters, 10
 To the boundary of light and darkness.
 The pillars of the heavens tremble, 11
 And are astonished at his rebuke.
 By his power he agitateth the sea, 12
 And by his understanding he restraineth its pride.
 By his spirit he hath adorned the heavens ; 13
 His hand hath formed the winding serpent.
 Lo, these are the outlines of his way, 14
 And what a whisper the word we have heard of him !
 But the thunder of his power who can understand ? ”

CHAP. XXVII.—And Job renewed his discourse, and said :

“ As God liveth, who hath rejected my cause ; 2
 Even the Almighty, who hath embittered my soul ;
 So long as my breath is in me, 3
 And the spirit of God is in my nostrils,
 My lips shall not speak wickedness, 4
 Nor my tongue utter falsehood.
 Far be it from me to justify you : 5
 Till I expire I will not renounce my integrity.
 My righteousness I will hold fast, and will not let it go. 6
 My heart shall not reproach me during my life.
 Let my enemy be as the wicked, 7
 And he who riseth up against me, as the unrighteous.

- 8 For what hope hath the profane, though he hath gained wealth,
 When God draweth forth his soul ?
- 9 Will God hear his cry,
 When trouble cometh upon him ?
- 10 Hath he taken delight in the Almighty ?
 Hath he called upon God at all times ?
- 11 I will instruct you concerning the hand of God ;
 That which is with the Almighty I will not conceal.
- 12 Lo, ye all see it,
 Why, then, do ye thus utter vanity ?
- 13 'This is the portion of a wicked man with God,
 And the inheritance which oppressors receive from the Almighty.
- 14 If his children be multiplied, the sword *awaits* them ;
 And his offspring shall not be satisfied with bread.
- 15 Those of them that remain, shall be buried in death,
 And their widows shall not weep.
- 16 Though he heap up silver as dust,
 And provide raiment as mire,
- 17 What he hath provided the just shall wear,
 And the innocent shall divide the silver.
- 18 He buildeth his house as a moth,
 Or as a booth which a watchman maketh.
- 19 He lieth down a rich man, nothing had been taken away :
 He openeth his eyes, and nothing remaineth.
- 20 Terrors overtake him as waters ;
 By night a tempest snatcheth him away.
- 21 The east wind carrieth him away, and he is gone,
 And tempestuously it sweepeth him from his place ;
- 22 And it casteth itself upon him, and spareth not,
 Though he would fain flee from its power.
- 23 It clappeth its hands at him,
 And hisseth him from his place.'

- 1 CHAP. XXVIII.—“ Truly, there is a vein for silver,
 And a place for gold, which they refine.
- 2 Iron is taken out of the earth,
 And the stone is smelted into brass.
- 3 He putteth an end to darkness,
 And to every extremity he searcheth,
 The stone of darkness and of the shadow of death.
- 4 He breaketh open a passage out of the mountain ;

Forgotten of the foot,	
They are suspended, they wander from men.	
The earth, out of which cometh food,	5
In its lowermost parts is turned up as by fire.	
Its stones are the place of the sapphire,	6
Which has grains of gold.	
<i>This path the bird of prey knoweth not,</i>	7
The eye of the vulture hath not glanced upon it;	
Wild beasts have not trodden it,	8
The lion hath not passed along it.	
On the flinty rock he putteth forth his hand,	9
He turneth up mountains from the roots.	
He cutteth out channels in the rocks:	10
Thus his eye seeth every precious thing.	
He restraineth the streams from oozing,	11
And that which was hidden, he bringeth to light.	
But Wisdom ! where shall that be found ?	12
And where is the place of Understanding ?	
Man knoweth not its price,	13
Nor can it be found in the land of the living.	
The Deep saith, 'It is not in me;'	14
And the Sea saith, 'It is not with me.'	
Gold shall not be given for it,	15
Nor shall silver be weighed as its worth.	
It cannot be purchased with the gold of Ophir,	16
For the precious onyx, or the sapphire.	
Gold or crystal cannot be its price;	17
Nor its barter, jewels of fine gold.	
Coral or the beryl shall not be mentioned,	18
And the weight of Wisdom is more than that of pearls.	
The topaz of Cush shall not be its price;	19
With pure gold it shall not be purchased.	
Wisdom ! whence, then, shall it come,	20
And where is the place of Understanding ?	
Since it is hidden from the eyes of every living thing,	21
And concealed from the birds of the heavens.	
Destruction and Death say,	22
'With our ears we have heard the report of it.'	
God understandeth the way of it,	23
And he knoweth its place.	
For he looketh to the ends of the earth;	24
What is under the whole heavens he seeth.	
When he appointed the weight of the wind,	25

26 And disposed the seas by measure ;
 When he gave laws to the rain,
 And a way for the lightning of the thunder ;
 27 Then he saw it, and declared it ;
 He prepared it, and also searched it out.
 28 But to Man he said,
 ‘Lo, the fear of the Lord, that is Wisdom,
 And to depart from evil is Understanding.’”

- 1 CHAP. XXIX.—And Job renewed his discourse, and said :
- 2 “Oh that I were as in months past,
 As in the days when God preserved me.
 3 When his lamp shone above my head,
When by his light, I walked in darkness.
 4 As I was in the days of my prosperity,
 When the counsel of God was over my tent.
 5 When the Almighty was yet with me,
When my children were around me.
 6 When I washed my steps in milk,
 And the rock poured forth for me rivers of oil.
 7 When I went forth from *my* gate into the city,
When in the open place I fixed my seat,
 8 The young men saw me, and hid themselves ;
 And the aged men arose and stood up.
 9 Princes restrained their speeches,
 And placed their hand upon their mouth.
 10 The nobles suffered not *their* voice to be heard,
 And their tongue clave to the roof of their mouth.
 11 When the ear heard *me*, it blessed me ;
 And when the eye saw *me*, it praised me ;
 12 Because I delivered the poor man who cried,
 And the fatherless, and him who had no helper.
 13 The blessing of him that was ready to perish came upon me,
 And I caused the widow’s heart to sing for joy.
 14 I put on equity, and it clothed me as a robe ;
 And *as* a turban was my justice.
 15 Eyes was I to the blind,
 And feet was I to the lame.
 16 A father was I to the needy ;
 And the cause which I knew not I searched out.
 17 And I brake the tusks of the unjust man,
 And from his teeth I snatched the prey.

And I said, ‘In my nest I shall expire,
And like the sand I shall multiply my days.
My root will lie open to the waters,
And the dew will lodge all night upon my branches.
My glory will be ever fresh with me,
And my bow will be renewed in my hand.’
They heard me and waited,
And were silent for my counsel.
After I had spoken, they spake not again ;
And my speech dropped upon them ;
And they waited for me as for the rain,
And they opened their mouth, as for the latter rain.
If I smiled upon them, they could not believe it ;
And the light of my countenance they caused not to fall.
I chose their way, and I sat the chief,
And dwelt *with them*, as a king amongst his troops,
As one who comforteth mourners.

CHAP. XXX.—“But now they deride me, who are younger than I,
Whose fathers I would have disdained
To place with the dogs of my flock.
Even the strength of their hands, what was it to me ?
Whose full age was wasted away.
Through want and extreme famine,
They gnawed bare the desert,
Of old time an utter desolation,
Cropping the salt herbs among the bushes,
And the root of the broom, for their food.
From the midst of men they were driven away,
They cried after them as *after* a thief;
That they might dwell in frightful valleys,
In caves and dens of the earth.
Amidst the bushes they brayed ;
Under the thorns they gathered themselves together.
Worthless, base-born men,
Scourged out of the land.
But now I am their song,
I am even their by-word.
They abhor me, they fly far from me,
And they refrain not from spitting before my face.
For they have loosed their cord, and afflicted me,
They also have cast away the bridle before me.

- 12 At my right hand the brood arise;
 They push away my feet,
 And they cast up against me their ways of destruction.
- 13 They break up my path,
 My calamity they help forward :
 They have no one to help them.
- 14 As by a wide breach they come *upon me* ;
 With loud noise they roll themselves against me.
- 15 Terrors are turned upon me ;
 They pursue my dignity as a wind,
 And as a cloud my welfare hath passed away.
- 16 And now my soul is poured out within me :
 Days of affliction have taken hold of me.
- 17 By night my bones are pierced within me ;
 And my gnawing *pains* take no rest.
- 18 By the great force of my disease my garment is changed :
 Like the border of my vest it bindeth me.
- 19 He hath cast me into the mud,
 And I am become like dust and ashes.
- 20 I cry to thee, but thou answerest me not :
 I persevere, but thou lookest calmly upon me.
- 21 Thou art turned to be cruel to me ;
 With the strength of thy hand thou opposest me.
- 22 Thou liftest me up to the wind, thou makest me to ride
 upon it,
 And thou causest my comfort to melt away.
- 23 Truly, I know that thou art bringing me to death,
 And to the house of assembling for all the living.
- 24 Yet let Him not put forth his hand to the grave,
 Since in his destruction men have safety.
- 25 Did I not weep for the miserable ?
 Was not my soul grieved for the needy ?
- 26 Yet when I expected good, then came evil ;
 And I looked for light, but darkness came.
- 27 My bowels boil, and cease not,
 Days of affliction come upon me.
- 28 I go about black, but not through heat ;
 I stand in the assembly, I cry aloud.
- 29 I am a brother to sea jackals,
 And a companion to ostriches.
- 30 My skin is become black upon me,
 And my bones are burned with heat.

My harp is also turned to mourning,
And my pipes to the voice of weepers.

21

CHAP. XXXI.—“ I made a covenant with mine eyes ;	1
How, then, should I gaze upon a maiden ?	2
For what <i>would have been</i> my portion from God above,	2
And my inheritance from the Almighty, on high ?	3
Is not calamity for the wicked,	3
And misery for the workers of iniquity ?	4
Doth not he see my ways,	4
And number all my steps ?	5
If I have walked with falsehood,	5
And my foot hath hastened to deceit ;	6
Let him weigh me in a just balance,	6
And let God know my integrity.	7
If my step hath turned from the right way,	7
And my heart hath gone after mine eyes,	
And a stain hath cleaved to my hands ;	
May I sow, and another eat !	8
And may my produce be rooted up !	
If my heart hath been allure ^d towards a married woman,	9
So that at the door of my neighbour I have lain in wait,	
Let my wife grind for another,	10
And over her let others bow down.	
For this would be a shameful deed,	11
And it would be an iniquity for the judges.	
Truly, this would be a fire devouring to destruction,	12
And all my substance it would utterly destroy.	
If I have despised the cause of my man-servant or my is maid-servant,	
When they would contend with me ;	
Then what should I do, should God rise up,	14
And should he make inquisition, what should I answer him ?	
Did not he who made me in the womb, make him ?	15
And did not One form us in the womb ?	
If I have withholden the poor from their desire,	16
Or caused the eyes of the widow to pine away,	
Or have eaten my morsel alone,	17
And the orphan hath not eaten of it :	
(Verily from my youth <i>he</i> hath grown up with me as with a father ;	

- From the womb of my mother, I have guided *her* ;
 19 If I have seen one perishing for want of clothing,
 And a poor man who had no covering ;
 20 If his loins did not bless me,
 And he was not warmed with the fleece of my sheep ;
 21 If I have shaken my hand over the orphan,
 When I saw my help in the gate ;
 22 Let my shoulder-blade fall from my shoulder,
 And the bone of my arm be broken !
 23 For a terror to me was calamity from the Almighty,
 And by reason of his majesty, I durst not *do thus*.
 24 If I have made gold my hope,
 Or to fine gold have said, ‘ My confidence ! ’
 25 If I have rejoiced because my wealth was great,
 And because my hand had acquired much ;
 26 If I have looked upon the sun when it was shining,
 Or the moon walking in its brightness,
 27 And my heart hath been secretly enticed,
 And my mouth hath kissed my hand ;
 28 This also were an iniquity for my judge ;
 For I should have denied the God above.
 29 If I have rejoiced at the calamity of him who hated me,
 And triumphed when evil had befallen him ;
 30 But I permitted not *even* my mouth to sin,
 By wishing curses upon him.
 31 If the men of my tent have not said,
 ‘ Who can shew one that hath not been satisfied with his
 meat ? ’
 32 In the street the stranger lodged not,
 I opened my door to the traveller.
 33 If I have covered my transgression like Adam,
 Hiding in my own bosom my iniquity ;
 34 Because I feared the great assembly,
 And the contempt of the families alarmed me,
 So that I was dumb, and went not forth from my door—
 35 Oh that he would hear me !
 Behold my signature :—Let the Almighty answer me,
 And let my adversary write a bill of accusation !
 36 I would take it upon my shoulder,
 I would bind it about me as a diadem.
 37 The number of my steps I would declare to him ;
 Like a prince I would approach him.
 38 If my land crieth out against me,

And its furrows also weep ;
 If I have eaten its produce without pay, 39
 And caused the spirit of the hirelings to fail ;
 Instead of wheat, let the bramble grow, 40
 And instead of barley, the aconite ! ”

The words of Job are ended.

CHAP. XXXII.—So these three men ceased to answer 1
 Job, because he was just in his own eyes.

Then the wrath of Elihu, the son of Barachel the Buzite, 2
 of the kindred of Ram, was kindled ; against Job was his
 wrath kindled, because he made himself more just than
 God. Also against his three friends was his wrath kindled, 3
 because they had found no answer, although they had con-
 demned Job. Now Elihu had waited till Job had spoken, 4
 because they were older than he. But when Elihu saw that 5
 there was no answer in the mouth of these three men, then
 his wrath was kindled. And Elihu, the son of Barachel the 6
 Buzite, answered, and said :

“ I am young, and ye are old ;
 Wherefore I drew back, and was afraid
 To shew you my opinion.
 I said, ‘ Days should speak, 7
 And the multitude of years should make known wis-
 dom.’
 But that spirit which is in Man, 8
 Even the breath of the Almighty, giveth them under-
 standing.
 Those of many *days* are not *always* wise ; 9
 Nor do the aged *always* understand judgment.
 Therefore, I say, Hearken to me ; 10
 I also will shew my opinion.
 Lo, I have listened patiently to your words,
 I have hearkened to your reasonings, 11
 Whilst ye were searching after speeches.
 But while I attended to you,
 Lo, no one of you refuted Job,
 No one of you answered his words.
 Say not, ‘ We have found out wisdom : 13
 God must confute him, not man.’
 Now, he hath not directed his speeches against me ; 14
 Nor with your words will I answer him.

- 15 They are confounded ; they speak no more ;
Words are removed from them.
 16 Should I yet wait because they speak not ?
Because they are at a stand and answer no more ?
 17 I, also, will answer in my turn ;
I, also, will shew my opinion.
 18 For I am full of matter ;
The spirit within me urgeth me.
 19 Lo, my breast is as wine which hath no vent ;
Like new skins, it is ready to burst.
 20 I will speak that I may be relieved :
I will open my lips, and will answer.
 21 I will accept no man's person ;
Nor will I flatter *any* man.
 22 Truly, I know not how to flatter ;
Speedily my Maker might take me away.

- 1 CHAP. XXXIII.—“ Therefore, hear now, O Job, my speech,
And hearken to all my words.
 2 Lo, now, I open my mouth,
My tongue speaketh in my palate.
 3 According to the uprightness of my heart shall be my words ;
And my lips shall utter knowledge purely.
 4 The spirit of God hath made me,
And the breath of the Almighty hath given me life.
 5 If thou art able, answer me ;
Array thyself before me, stand up ;
 6 Lo I, like thee, am God's ;
From clay I also have been formed.
 7 Lo, thy fear of me shall not terrify thee,
Nor shall my hand be heavy upon thee.
 8 Surely thou hast said in my hearing,
And the voice of thy words I have heard,
 9 ‘ I am pure, free from transgression,
I am clean, and no iniquity is in me.
 10 Lo, He inventeth accusations against me ;
He accounteth me his enemy ;
 11 He putteth my feet into the stocks,
He guardeth all my ways.’
 12 Lo, in this thou art not just, I will answer thee :
Truly, God is greater than man ;

Why dost thou contend with him ?	13
For of none of his ways will he give account.	
Surely, once God speaketh,	14
Yea a second time ; but <i>man</i> doth not consider.	
In a dream, a vision of the night,	15
When deep sleep falleth upon men,	
In slumberings on <i>their</i> bed,	
Then he openeth the ear of <i>man</i> ,	16
And setteth a seal upon their instruction,	
That he may turn a man aside from his doings,	17
And hide pride from the mighty <i>man</i> .	
He keepeth him back from the pit,	18
And his life from passing away by the dart.	
He is chastened also by pain upon his bed,	19
And perpetual is the conflict of his bones ;	
So that his life abhorreth food,	20
And his soul, dainty meats.	
His flesh is consumed so that it cannot be seen,	21
And his bones, that were not seen, stick out.	
So his soul draweth near to the pit,	22
And his life to those who are dead.	
If there be near him a messenger,	23
An interpreter, one of a thousand,	
To shew to the man his duty ;	
Then He is gracious to him, and saith,	24
‘ Deliver him from going down to the pit ;	
I have found an atonement.’	
His flesh becometh fresher than a child’s ;	25
He returneth to the days of his youth.	
He shall pray to God, who will be favourable to him ;	26
And he shall see his face with the shout of joy ;	
And he will restore to a man his righteousness.	
He shall sing before men, and say,	27
‘ I had sinned, and that which was right I had perverted ;	
Yet he treated me not as I deserved :	
He delivered my soul from passing to the pit,	28
So that my life beholdeth the light.’	
Lo, all these things doeth God,	29
Twice, thrice, with man,	
To bring him back from the pit,	30
To be enlightened with the light of the living.	
Mark well, O Job, hear me,	31
Be silent, and I will speak.	

32 If thou hast anything to say, answer me :
 Speak, for I desire to justify thee.
 33 If not, hear thou me ;
 Be silent, and I will teach thee wisdom."

- 1 CHAP. XXXIV.—And Elihu continued *his discourse*, and said :
- 2 "Hear, ye wise men, my speech ;
 And ye who have knowledge, hearken to me :
 3 For the ear trieth speech,
 As the palate tasteth food.
 4 Let us choose for ourselves what is right ;
 Let us know among ourselves what is good.
 5 For Job hath said, 'I am righteous,
 But God hath turned aside my cause.
 6 Though I am right, I am treated as a liar :
 Mortal is my wound without transgression.'
 7 What man is like Job ?
 He drinketh scoffing like water ;
 8 He goeth in company with the workers of iniquity,
 And he walketh with wicked men.
 9 For he hath said, 'It profiteth not a man
 That he should render himself acceptable with God.'
 10 Therefore, ye men of understanding, hear me :
 Far from God be wickedness,
 And from the Almighty, iniquity !
 11 For the work of a man he will recompense to him,
 And according to the way of a man he will render to him.
 12 Surely, God will not act wickedly,
 Nor will the Almighty pervert judgment.
 13 Who hath given the earth in charge to him,
 And who disposed the whole world ?
 14 If he were to set his heart against him,
 If he should recall his spirit and his breath,
 15 All flesh would expire together,
 And man would return to dust.
 16 If, then, thou hast understanding, hear this ;
 Hearken to the voice of my words :
 17 Is it, truly, one who hateth right that ruleth ?
 And him who is most just wilt thou condemn ?
 18 Who saith to a king, 'Thou art worthless,'
 To nobles, 'Ye are wicked,'
 19 Who accepteth not the persons of princes,

- Nor regardeth the rich more than the poor ;
For they are all the work of his hands.
In a moment they die ; and at midnight
The people are troubled, and pass away,
And the mighty are removed by no mortal hand. 20
- For his eyes are on the ways of a man,
And all his steps he seeth. 21
- There is no darkness, and no shadow of death,
Where the workers of iniquity can hide themselves.
Truly, he doth not long consider man,
When he is to enter with God into judgment.
He breaketh down the mighty without inquiry,
And maketh others to stand in their place. 24
- Because he knoweth their works,
He overturneth them in a night, and they are destroyed.
As wicked men he smiteth them,
In the place of beholders,
Because they turned aside from following him,
And none of his ways would they understand ;
So that they caused the cry of the poor man to reach him, 28
And the cry of the afflicted he hath heard.
- He also giveth quiet, and who will condemn ?
And when he hideth the face, who can behold it ?
Both with respect to a nation, and to a man, alike ;
That a profane man may not reign,
That a people may not be ensnared. 30
- For hath he said to God,
' I have suffered, I will not offend :
What I see not, teach thou me,
If I have done evil, I will do so no more ' ?
According to thy mind shall he requite it ?
For thou hast rejected it ;
For thou must choose, not I.
Yet what thou knowest, speak. 33
- Men of understanding will assent to me,
And a wise man will hear me.
Job speaketh without knowledge,
And his words are without wisdom.
I would that Job should be proved till he become pure,
Because his answers are those of iniquitous men.
For he hath added to his sin transgression ;
In the midst of us he clappeth his hands,
And he multiplieth his words against God." 37

- 1 CHAP. XXXV.—And Elihu continued *his discourse*, and said :
- 2 “Dost thou account this right ?
Thou saidst, ‘I am more righteous than God.’
- 3 For thou saidst, ‘What profit will it be to thee ?
What advantage shall I have more than if I had sinned ?’
- 4 I will answer thee,
And thy friends together with thee.
- 5 Look to the heavens, and see,
And observe the clouds which are higher than thou.
- 6 If thou sin, what doest thou against Him ?
Even if thy transgressions be many, what doest thou to
Him ?
- 7 If thou be righteous, what givest thou to Him ?
Or what receiveth He from thy hand ?
- 8 A man like thyself thy wickedness *may affect*,
And a son of man thy righteousness.
- 9 Through the multitude of *the oppressors*, the oppressed cry ;
They cry aloud on account of the power of the mighty.
- 10 But no one saith, ‘Where is God my Maker,
Who giveth songs in the night ;
- 11 Who teacheth us more than the beasts of the earth,
And maketh us wiser than the fowls of heaven ?’
- 12 Hence they cry, (but He answereth not,)
From the pride of evil men.
- 13 Surely, God will not hear vanity,
Nor will the Almighty regard it.
- 14 Although thou sayest that thou seest him not,
Justice is before him ; therefore thou shouldest wait for
him.
- 15 But now, because his anger hath not visited,
And he hath not noticed excess of pride,
- 16 Therefore, Job hath opened his mouth with vanity,
Since he hath no knowledge, he hath boldly uttered words.”
- 1 CHAP. XXXVI.—And Elihu proceeded, and said :
- 2 “Suffer me a little, while I teach thee,
For I have yet words on behalf of God.
- 3 I will bring my knowledge from afar,
And to my Maker I will ascribe righteousness.
- 4 For, truly, my words are not falsehood,
One who is upright in knowledge is with thee.
- 5 Lo, God is mighty, yet he will not despise *any* ;

Mighty in strength of understanding ! 1
 He preserveth not the life of the wicked ; 6
 But he administereth justice to the poor.
 He withdraweth not his eyes from the righteous, 7
 But with kings on the throne *he establisheth them* ;
 Yea, he establisheth them for ever, and they are exalted. 8
 And if, being bound in fetters,
 They are taken in cords of affliction ;
 Then he declareth to them their *evil work*, 9
 And their transgressions in having behaved proudly.
 And he openeth their ear to instruction, 10
 And commandeth them to turn from iniquity.
 If they obey and serve *him*, 11
 They spend their days in prosperity,
 And their years in pleasures.
 But if they will not obey, 12
 They pass away by the dart,
 And they expire without knowledge.
 But the profane of heart lay up for themselves wrath. 13
 They cry not to *God* when he bindeth them.
 They die in youth, 14
 Their life is amongst the impure.
 He delivereth the afflicted in their affliction, 15
 And openeth their ear by oppression.
 Even so would he have removed thee from a strait place, 16
 Into a broad place, where is no straitness ;
 And thy table should have been well furnished with fatted
 things.
 But thou art completing the judgment of the wicked : 17
 Judgment and justice take hold of thee.
 Truly, there is wrath ; beware lest He take thee away by a 18
 stroke ;
 Then a large ransom will not deliver thee.
 Will He value thy riches ? 19
 Not gold, nor all the forces of strength.
 Long not for the night, 20
 When peoples disappear from their places.
 Beware that thou turn not to iniquity ;
 For this hast thou chosen rather than affliction.
 Lo, God is exalted by his strength : 22
 Who, like him, giveth law ?
 Who hath enjoined on him his way ?
 And who will say, ‘Thou hast wrought iniquity’ ? 23

- 24 Remember that thou exalt his work,
Which mortal men behold.
25 All men see it with delight ;
Mortals look upon it from afar.
26 Lo, God is exalted, and we know him not ;
The number of his years cannot be searched out.
27 When he hath drawn up the drops of water,
They pour down rain for his moisture,
28 Which the clouds distil ;
They fall down upon man abundantly.
29 Can any one, indeed, understand the spreading of the
clouds,
The noise of his tent ?
30 Lo, he spreadeth around him his light,
And the roots of the sea he covereth.
31 Truly by these he judgeth peoples ;
By these he giveth food in great abundance.
32 In his hands he concealeth the lightning ;
And giveth it charge as to that which opposeth ;
33 His thunder telleth concerning him,
The zeal of his wrath against iniquity.

- 1 CHAP. XXXVII.—“Truly, at this my heart trembleth,
And is moved out of its place.
2 Hear attentively the noise of his voice,
And the sound which proceedeth from his mouth.
3 Under the whole heavens is its flash,
And its light to the extremities of the earth.
4 After it, *his* voice roareth,
He thundereth with his mighty voice ;
And keepeth them not back when his voice is heard.
5 God thundereth with his voice marvellously ;
Doing great things which we cannot comprehend.
6 When he saith to the snow, ‘Be on the earth,’
And to the great rain, even the great rains of his strength ;
7 He sealeth up the hand of every man,
That all whom he has made may acknowledge him.
8 Then the wild beasts go into their lurking places,
And abide within their dens.
9 From the south cometh the whirlwind ;
And from the north, cold.
10 By the breath of God frost is given,
And the broad waters become solid.

Serene weather removeth the thick cloud, 11
 Its light scattereth the cloud.
 Thus he maketh *the seasons* to return according to his 12
 counsels;
 That they may do all that he giveth them in charge, 13
 On the face of the habitable earth;
 Whether for the correction of his earth, 13
 Or for kindness, he causeth it to come.
 Harken to this, O Job; stand, 14
 And consider the wonderful works of God.
 Dost thou know how God ordaineth them, 15
 And causeth the light of his cloud to shine?
 Dost thou know the balancings of the clouds, 16
 The wonders of perfect knowledge?
 How thy garments are warm, 17
 When he bringeth a calm upon the land from the south?
 Canst thou, like him, spread out the sky, 18
 Firm as a molten mirror?
 Make known to us what we should say to him; 19
 We cannot set *our words* in order through darkness.
 Shall it be told him, that I would speak? 20
 If any one should say it, surely he would be swallowed up.
 And now the light is not seen, 21
 Though it be shining amongst the clouds;
 But a wind is passing through, and will make them clear.
 From the north brightness will come. 22
 Around God is terrible majesty!
 The Almighty! We cannot find him out. 23
 Exalted in power and in judgment,
 Abounding in justice, he doth not oppress.
 Therefore men should revere him; 24
 He looketh not on any that are wise in heart."

CHAP. XXXVIII.—Then Jehovah spake to Job from the whirlwind, and said:

"Who is this that darkeneth counsel 2
 By words without knowledge?
 Gird up, now, thy loins like a mighty man; 3
 I will question thee, and do thou inform me.
 Where wast thou when I founded the earth? 4
 Declare, since thou hast understanding!
 Who appointed its measure? since thou knowest; 5
 Or who stretched over it the line?"

- 6 On what are its foundations sunk ;
 Or who laid its corner-stone,
- 7 When the morning stars sang together,
 And all the sons of God shouted for joy ?
- 8 And who shut up the sea with doors,
 When it brake forth issuing from the womb ?
- 9 When I made a cloud its vesture,
 And thick darkness its swathing-band ;
- 10 When I brake up for it my decreed *place*,
 And placed a bar and gates,
- 11 And said, ‘Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further,
 And here shall the pride of thy waves be stayed.’
- 12 Since thy days began, hast thou given charge to the
 morning ;
 Hast thou caused the dawn to know its place ;
- 13 That it might take hold of the ends of the earth,
 That the wicked might be driven out of it ?
- 14 It is changed as clay by the seal,
 When they present themselves as its clothing.
- 15 Then their light is withholden from the wicked,
 And the high-raised arm is broken.
- 16 Hast thou gone to the sources of the sea,
 And in search of the deep hast thou walked ?
- 17 Have the gates of death been disclosed to thee,
 And the gates of the shadow of death hast thou seen ?
- 18 Hast thou discerned the breadth of the earth ?
 Declare, since thou knowest it all !
- 19 Which is the way to the place where light dwelleth ?
 And darkness, where is its place ?
- 20 That thou shouldest lead each to its boundary,
 And that thou shouldest discern the paths to its house.
- 21 Thou must know, since thou wast then born ;
 And the number of thy days !—they are many !
- 22 Hast thou gone to the treasures of snow,
 And the treasures of hail hast thou seen,
- 23 Which I reserve for a time of trouble,
 For a season of battle and of war ?
- 24 Where is the way by which lightning is portioned out ;
 By which the east wind is diffused over the earth ?
- 25 Who hath opened a channel for the overflowing waters ;
 And a way for the bolt of the thunder ;
- 26 To give rain upon a land where no one is,
 The desert, in which there is no man ;

- To water abundantly the barren and desolate place ; 27
 And to cause the bud of the herbage to spring forth ?
 Hath the rain a father ? 28
 Or who hath begotten the drops of the dew ?
 From whose womb cometh forth ice, 29
 And the hoar frost of heaven, who hath begotten it ?
 As with a stone the waters are concealed, 30
 And the face of the deep is fettered.
 Canst thou restrain the sweet influences of the Pleiades, 31
 Or loosen the bands of Orion ?
 Canst thou bring forth the Signs in their season ? 32
 Or canst thou lead The Bear and his sons ?
 Knowest thou the statutes of the heavens ? 33
 Or canst thou appoint their dominion over the earth ?
 Canst thou lift up thy voice to the clouds, 34
 And will an abundance of water cover thee ?
 Canst thou send forth the lightnings, and will they go ; 35
 And will they say to thee, ‘Here we are’ ?
 Who hath put wisdom in the wandering lights ? 36
 Or who hath given to meteors discernment ?
 Who can number the clouds by wisdom, 37
 And the bottles of the heavens, who can pour forth,
 When the dust floweth together, 38
 So that the clods cleave to each other ?
 Wilt thou take the prey for the lioness ? 39
 And the appetite of the young lions wilt thou satisfy ?
 When they couch in their dens, 40
When they abide in the covert, lying in wait.
 Who prepareth for the raven his food, 41
 When his young cry to God,
When they wander for want of meat ?

- CHAP. XXXIX.—“Knowest thou the season when the 1
 rock-goats bring forth ?
 Dost thou watch over the calving of the hinds ?
 Dost thou number the months which they complete ? 2
 And knowest thou the season of their bringing forth ?
When they bow themselves, when they cause their young to 3
 burst forth,
 When they cast away their pangs ?
 Their young ones thrive, they grow up in the desert, 4
 They go forth, and return not to them.
 Who sendeth forth the wild mule free ; 5

- And who looseth the bands of the wild ass ?
 6 To whom I have appointed the desert for a habitation,
 And the salt-tracts for his dwelling-places.
 7 He laugheth at the tumult of the city,
 The cry of a driver he heareth not.
 8 The range of the mountains is his pasture,
 And he searcheth after every green herb.
 9 Will the buffalo be willing to serve thee ?
 Will he lodge in thy stall ?
 10 Canst thou bind the buffalo in the furrow by his cord ?
 Will he harrow the ridges after thee ?
 11 Wilt thou have confidence in him because his strength is
 great ?
 And wilt thou commit to him thy labour ?
 12 Canst thou trust to him that he will bring in thy seed,
 And collect it on thy threshing-floor ?
 13 The wing of the ostrich quivereth joyfully ;
 Is it a kindly pinion and feather ?
 14 Nay, but she leaveth in the earth her eggs,
 And upon the sand she warmeth them.
 15 And she forgetteth that the foot may crush them,
 Or that the wild beast may trample on them.
 16 She hardeneth herself against her young ones, as not her
 own ;
 Her labour is vain, without anxiety.
 17 For God hath made her destitute of wisdom,
 And hath not imparted to her understanding.
 18 When raising herself, she urgeth her course,
 She laugheth at the horse and his rider.
 19 Hast thou given to the horse strength ?
 Hast thou clothed his neck with thunder ?
 20 Hast thou made him to bound as a locust ?
 The force of his snorting is terrible.
 21 He paweth the valley, and rejoiceth in his strength ;
 He would go forth to meet the armed warrior.
 22 He laugheth at terror, and is not dismayed ;
 Neither turneth he back from the sword.
 23 Against him rattleth the quiver,
 The flame of the spear and the javelin.
 24 With agitation and trembling he swalloweth the ground,
 And he cannot be at rest when there is the sound of the
 trumpet.
 25 At the full blast of the trumpet, he saith, ‘Aha !’

And from afar he smelleth the battle,
The thunder of the chieftains, and the shouting.

By thy understanding doth the hawk fly, 26
Spreading his wings towards the south ?
At thy bidding doth the eagle soar aloft, 27
Building his nest on high ?
On a rock he lodgeth and abideth, 28
On a craggy rock and a cliff.
Thence he exploreth his food, 29
From afar his eyes behold it.
His young ones also suck up blood, 30
And where the slain are, there is he.”

CHAP. XL.—And Jehovah spake again to Job, and said : 1
“ Will he who blameth contend with the Almighty ? 2
Let him who reproveth God, answer.”

Then Job answered Jehovah, and said : 3
“ Lo, I am of no account, what shall I reply to thee ? 4
I put my hand upon my mouth.
Once have I spoken, but I will not answer ; 5
And twice ; but I will say no more.”

Then Jehovah spake again to Job out of the whirlwind, 6
and said :

“ Gird up thy loins, now, like a mighty man ; 7
I will ask thee, and do thou inform me.
Wilt thou annul my judgment ? 8
Wilt thou condemn me, that thou mayest be acquitted ?
Hast thou, then, an arm like God ? 9
And canst thou thunder with a voice like him ?
Adorn thyself, now, with majesty and dignity ; 10
And with glory and beauty clothe thyself.
Pour forth the fury of thy wrath ; 11
And look on every one that is proud, and bring him low.
Look on every one who is proud, make him bow down ; 12
And break in pieces the wicked in their place.
Hide them in the dust together, 13
Bind their faces in secret.
Then I also will confess to thee,
That thy own right-hand can save thee. 14

Behold, now, the river-horse, which I made as well as thee ; 15
He eateth grass like an ox.

- 16 Behold, now, his strength is in his loins,
And his vigour in the muscles of his belly.
17 He erecteth his tail like a cedar :
The sinews of his thighs are knit together.
18 His bones are pipes of brass ;
His strong bones are bars of iron.
19 He is the chief of the ways of God.
His Maker hath furnished him with his sword.
20 Surely, the mountains bring forth provender for him,
Where all the beasts of the field play.
21 Under the lotus trees he lieth,
In the covert of reeds and in mire.
22 The lotus trees cover him with their shade ;
The willows of the brook surround him.
23 Lo, should the river press upon *him*, he would not hasten
away ;
He would be confident, though Jordan should break forth
even to his mouth.
24 In his sight can any one take him ?
When in the snares will any one pierce his nose ?

- 1 CHAP. XLI.—“Canst thou draw out the crocodile with
a hook ;
Or fasten a cord about his tongue ?
2 Canst thou put a rush into his nose ;
Or pierce his jaw with an iron ring ?
3 Will he make many supplications to thee ?
Will he speak soothing words to thee ?
4 Will he make a covenant with thee ?
Canst thou take him as a servant for ever ?
5 Canst thou play with him as with a bird ?
Canst thou bind him for thy maidens ?
6 Will the companies of *merchants* purchase him ?
Will they divide him among the traders ?
7 Canst thou fill his skin with harpoons,
And his head with fish-spears ?
8 Fix thy hand upon him,
Be mindful of the battle, thou wilt not repeat it !
9 Lo, the expectation of him will prove deceitful :
At the very sight of him, will not a man fall ?
10 No one is so fierce as to rouse him up.
Who, then, is he who can stand up before Me ?

- Who hath done me a service that I should repay him ? 11
 Whatever is under the whole heavens is mine.
- I will not pass over in silence his limbs, 12
 Nor his might, nor the comeliness of his frame.
 Who will unclose the surface of his garment ? 13
 Who will come within his double jaws ?
 The doors of his face who can open ? 14
 All around his teeth is terror.
 His back is the strength of shields, 15
 Shut as with a close seal.
 One is near to another, 16
 And the wind cannot pass between them.
 They cleave one to another, 17
 They are fastened together, they cannot be separated.
 When he snorteth, a light shineth, 18
 And his eyes are as the eyelids of the dawn.
 From his mouth go forth firebrands, 19
 Sparks of fire spring out.
 From his nostrils goeth forth smoke, 20
 As from a boiling cauldron of heated water.
 His breath enkindleth flakes of fire, 21
 And a flame goeth forth from his mouth.
 In his neck lodgeth Strength, 22
 And Terror runneth before him.
 The flakes of his flesh cleave together : 23
 It is firm upon him, it cannot be moved.
 His heart is firm as a stone, 24
 Yea, firm as a nether mill-stone.
 When he raiseth himself up, the mighty are afraid ; 25
 In their trepidation they mistake their way.
 The sword of him who attacks him will not stand ; 26
 The spear, the dart, and the pike.
 He esteemeth iron as straw, 27
 Brass as rotten wood.
 The arrow will not put him to flight, 28
 Stones from the sling are to him stubble ;
 The club is esteemed as stubble by him, 29
 And he laugheth at the shaking of the spear.
 Under him are sharp potsherds ; 30
 He spreadeth under him spikes on the mud.
 He maketh the deep to boil like a cauldron, 31
 He maketh the lake like a vessel of ointment.

32 Behind him he maketh *his* track to shine ;
 One would think the deep to be hoary.
 33 On earth there is nothing like him,
 He is made without fear :
 34 Every high thing he seeth ;
 He is king over all the sons of rapine.”

- 1 CHAP. XLII.—Then Job answered Jehovah, and said :
 2 “I know that thou canst do all things ;
 And that no purpose of thine can be hindered.
 3 ‘Who is this that hideth counsel through want of know-
 ledge ?’
 Surely I have spoken, but have not understood,
 Things too wonderful for me, which I know not.
 4 ‘Hear now, and I will speak ;
 I will ask thee, and do thou inform me.’
 5 By the hearing of the ear I had heard of thee ;
 But now my eye seeth thee ;
 6 Wherefore, I abhor *my words*,
 And repent in dust and ashes.”
- 7 Now when Jehovah had spoken these words to Job, Jehovah said to Eliphaz the Temanite : “My wrath is kindled against thee, and against thy two friends : for ye have not
 8 spoken rightly of me, like my servant Job. Now, then, take for yourselves seven bullocks and seven rams, and go to my servant Job, and offer up for yourselves a burnt-offering ; and my servant Job shall pray for you, for him will I accept ; that I deal not with you according to your folly ; for ye have
 9 not spoken rightly of me, like my servant Job.” So Eliphaz the Temanite, and Bildad the Shuite, and Zophar the Naamathite, went, and did according as Jehovah commanded them :
 10 Jehovah also accepted Job. And Jehovah repaired the calamities of Job, when he had prayed for his friends : also Jehovah gave to Job twice as much as he had before. Then all his brethren, and all his sisters, and all his former acquaintance came to him, and ate bread with him in his house ; and they condoled with him, and comforted him concerning all the evil that Jehovah had brought upon him : every one also gave him a piece of money, and every one a jewel of gold.
 12 So Jehovah blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning : for he had fourteen thousand sheep, and six thou-

sand camels, and a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand she-asses. He had also seven sons, and three daughters.¹³ And he called the name of the first Jemima; [DAYS;] and¹⁴ the name of the second, Kezia; [CASSIA,] and the name of the third, Keren-happuch; [HORN OF STIBIUM.] And in all¹⁵ the land were no women found so fair as the daughters of Job: and their father gave them an inheritance among their brethren. After this Job lived a hundred and forty years,¹⁶ and saw his sons, and the sons of his sons, four generations. So Job died, being old and full of days.¹⁷

THE BOOK OF PSALMS.

PSALM I.

- 1 HAPPY the man
Who walketh not in the counsel of the wicked,
And standeth not in the way of sinners,
And sitteth not in the seat of scorner;
- 2 But his delight is in the law of Jehovah;
And in his law doth he meditate day and night.
- 3 For he shall be like a tree planted by streams of water,
That yieldeth its fruit in its season,
And whose leaf doth not wither:
All that he doeth also shall prosper.
- 4 Not so the wicked;
But they are like chaff which the wind driveth away.
- 5 Therefore, the wicked shall not stand in the judgment,
Nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.
- 6 For Jehovah knoweth the way of the righteous,
But the way of the wicked shall perish.

PSALM II.

- 1 WHY are the nations tumultuous,
And the peoples raging in vain?
- 2 The kings of the earth assemble themselves,
And the princes take counsel together,
Against Jehovah, and against his anointed, *saying*,
- 3 “Let us break asunder their bands,
And cast away from us their cords.”
- 4 He who sitteth in the heavens will laugh;
Jehovah will have them in derision.
- 5 Then will he speak to them in his anger,
And in his wrath he will confound them:

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| "I myself have anointed my King
On Zion, my holy mountain." | 6 |
| I will declare the decree of Jehovah :
He said to me, "Thou art my son ;
This day I have begotten thee.
Ask of me, and I will give nations for thine inheritance,
And the uttermost parts of the land for thy possession.
Thou shalt break them with a sceptre of iron ;
Like a potter's vessel, thou shalt dash them in pieces." | 7
8
9
10 |
| Now, therefore, ye kings, be wise ;
Be instructed, ye judges of the earth.
Serve Jehovah with fear,
And rejoice with dread.
Kiss the son, lest he be angry,
And ye perish in <i>your</i> way,
When his anger burneth only for a short time.
Happy are all they who trust in him. | 11
12 |

PSALM III.

- A Psalm of David when he was fleeing from Absalom his son.
O JEHOVAH, how are mine enemies multiplied !
Many rise up against me ;
Many say of me,
“ There is no safety for him in God ! ”
But thou, O Jehovah, art a shield about me ;
My glory, and the lifter up of my head.
With my voice I cry to Jehovah,
And he answereth me from his holy mountain.
I lie down and sleep ;
I awake, because Jehovah sustaineth me.
I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people,
Who set themselves against me on every side.
Arise, O Jehovah ! save me, O my God :
For thou hast smitten all mine enemies on the check-bone ;
The teeth of the wicked thou hast broken.
To Jehovah belongeth safety.
Thy blessing be upon thy people !

PSALM IV.

- To the Chief Musician on Neginoth. A Psalm of David.
ANSWER me when I call, O God of my righteousness !
In distress thou hast set me free ;

- Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer !
- 2 Ye sons of men, how long shall my glory be turned into shame ?
How long will ye love vanity, will ye seek after a lie ?
- 3 But know that Jehovah hath distinguished his holy one :
 Jehovah will hear when I cry to him.
- 4 Tremble ye, and sin not :
 Commune with your hearts on your bed, and be still.
- 5 Offer sacrifices of righteousness ;
 And put your trust in Jehovah.
- 6 Many say, "Who will shew us good ?"
 Cause the light of thy face to shine upon us, O Jehovah !
- 7 Thou hast put joy into my heart,
 More than when their corn and their wine are increased.
- 8 In peace I both lie down and sleep ;
 For thou alone, O Jehovah, canst make me dwell in safety.

PSALM V.

To the Chief Musician on the Nehiloth. A Psalm of David.

- 1 Give ear to my words, O Jehovah,
 Consider my complaint.
- 2 Attend to the voice of my cry, my king and my God !
 For to thee I will pray.
- 3 O Jehovah, in the morning thou shalt hear my voice ;
 In the morning I will address thee, and *to thee* I will look.
- 4 For thou art not a God delighting in the wicked ;
 The evil man shall not dwell with thee.
- 5 Foolish men shall not stand in thy sight :
 Thou hatest all the workers of iniquity.
- 6 Thou wilt destroy those who speak falsehood ;
 The bloody and deceitful man Jehovah will abhor.
- 7 But I, in thine abundant kindness, will go to thy house ;
 I will worship at thy holy temple in thy fear.
- 8 O Jehovah, lead me in thy righteousness, because of mine enemies ;
 Make thy way straight before me.
- 9 For there is no truth in the mouth of any one of them ;
 Their inmost thoughts are wickedness ;
 Their throat is an open sepulchre ;
 With their tongue they flatter.
- 10 Condemn them, O God ;
 Let them fall by their own counsels ;

For the multitude of their transgressions drive them away,
Because they have rebelled against thee.

But let all who trust in thee rejoice ; 11

Let them for ever sing for joy, and do thou protect them ;
Let all those who love thy name exult in thee.

For thou, O Jehovah, blessest the righteous ; 12
With favour thou dost encompass him as with a shield.

PSALM VI.

To the Chief Musician on Neginoth of eight strings.
A Psalm of David.

- O JEHOVAH, reprove me not in thine anger, 1
Nor chasten me in thy wrath.
- Be favourable to me, O Jehovah, for I am feeble ; 2
Heal me, O Jehovah, for my bones are troubled.
- I am exceedingly troubled ; 3
But thou, O Jehovah,—how long ?
- Return, O Jehovah, deliver me : 4
Save me for thy loving kindness' sake.
- For in death there is no remembrance of thee : 5
In the grave, who shall praise thee ?
- I am weary with my groaning, 6
Through the whole night I moisten my bed,
- I water my couch with my tears.
- Mine eye is consumed by grief, 7
It groweth old because of all mine enemies.
- Depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity, 8
For Jehovah hath heard the voice of my weeping.
- Jehovah hath heard my supplication ; 9
Jehovah hath accepted my prayer.
- Let all mine enemies be ashamed and exceedingly troubled ; 10
Let them, in an instant, be again put to shame.

PSALM VII.

A mournful Psalm of David which he sang to Jehovah, concerning
Cush, the Benjaminite.

- O JEHOVAH, my God, in thee I trust : 1
Save me from all who pursue me, and deliver me.
- Lest *mine enemy*, like a lion, seize me as his prey, 2
Tearing me in pieces, while there is none to deliver.
- O Jehovah, my God, if I have done this, 3
If there be iniquity in my hands,

- 4 If I have requited evil to him who was at peace with me,
 If I have spoiled him who was, without cause, mine enemy ;
- 5 Let the enemy pursue my soul and overtake it ;
 And let him trample my life upon the ground,
 And lay my honour in the dust.
- 6 Arise, O Jehovah, in thine anger ;
 Lift thyself up against the wrath of mine enemies ;
 And rouse thyself for me to the judgment which thou hast
 commanded.
- 7 Then shall the assembly of peoples surround thee,
 And for their sake, return to thy place on high.
- 8 Jehovah judgeth the peoples :
 Decide my cause, O Jehovah, according to my righteousness,
 And according to my integrity *which is* in me.
- 9 Let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end ;
 But establish thou the just ;
 For thou triest the hearts and reins, O righteous God !
- 10 My shield is with God,
 Who saveth the upright in heart.
- 11 God judgeth righteously,
 And is not continually angry.
- 12 If *the wicked* turn not, he will whet his sword ;
 He will bend his bow, and make it ready.
- 13 He prepareth for him the instruments of death ;
 He maketh his arrows for those who persecute.
- 14 Lo, the wicked is in labour with iniquity,
 He hath conceived mischief,
 And he is bringing forth falsehood.
- 15 He hath dug a pit, and made it deep,
 But he shall fall into the pit which he hath made.
- 16 His mischief shall return upon his own head,
 And upon the crown of his head his violence shall descend.
- 17 I will praise Jehovah according to his righteousness,
 And I will sing of the name of Jehovah Most High.

PSALM VIII.

To the Chief Musician upon the Gittith. A Psalm of David.

- 1 O JEHOVAH, our Lord,
 How excellent is thy name in all the earth !
 Thou who hast displayed thy glory in the heavens.
- 2 Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings, thou hast estab-
 lished praise,

On account of thine enemies ;
To silence the enemy and self-avenger.

When I behold the heavens, the work of thy fingers, 3
The moon and the stars, which thou hast formed,
What is man, that thou shouldest be mindful of him, 4
And the son of man, that thou shouldest take charge of him ?
Thou hast made him little lower than the angels, 5
And crowned him with glory and honour.
Thou hast made him to have dominion over the works of 6
thy hands :
Thou hast put all things under his feet ;
Sheep and oxen, all of them, 7
And even the beasts of the field ;
The fowls of the heavens, and the fishes of the sea, 8
Which pass through the paths of the sea.
O Jehovah our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the 9
earth !

PSALM IX.

To the Chief Musician on Muthleben. A Psalm of David.

I WILL praise thee, O Jehovah, with my whole heart ; 1
I will recount all thy marvellous deeds.
I will rejoice and exult in thee, 2
I will sing of thy name, O thou Most High.
When mine enemies turned back, 3
They stumbled, and perished at thy presence.
For thou hast maintained my right and my cause ; 4
Thou satest on the throne, judging righteously.
Thou hast rebuked the nations, thou hast destroyed the 5
wicked,
Thou hast blotted out their name for ever and ever.
The desolations of the enemy are for ever ended ; 6
And thou hast destroyed their cities; the memory of them-
selves has perished.
But Jehovah shall sit for ever : 7
He hath prepared his throne for judgment,
And he will judge the world in righteousness ; 8
He will administer justice to the peoples with equity.
Truly, Jehovah will be a refuge for the oppressed, 9
A refuge in times of trouble.
And they who know thy name will trust in thee ; 10
For thou forsakest not those who seek thee, O Jehovah.

- 11 Sing praise to Jehovah, who dwelleth in Zion ;
 Declare among the peoples his doings.
 12 Because he maketh inquisition of blood, he remembereth it ;
 He forgetteth not the cry of the distressed :
 13 “ Be gracious to me, O Jehovah,
 Look upon my distress from those who hate me ;
 Raising me up from the gates of death,
 14 That I may rehearse all thy praise
 In the gates of the daughter of Zion :
 That I may exult in thy salvation.”
 15 The nations have sunk into the pit which they made :
 In the net which they concealed their own foot is taken.
 16 Jehovah is known by the judgment he hath executed :
 The wicked is snared in the work of his own hands.
 17 The wicked shall be turned into the lowermost world ;
 All the nations that forget God.
 18 For not for ever shall the needy be forgotten ;
 The expectation of the afflicted shall not perish for ever.
 19 Arise, O Jehovah, and let not man prevail ;
 Let the nations be judged in thy presence.
 20 Put terror into them, O Jehovah ;
 Let the nations know that they are men.

PSALM X.

- 1 Why standest thou afar off, O Jehovah ?
Why hidest thou thyself in times of trouble ?
 2 By the haughtiness of the wicked the afflicted are distressed :
 They are taken in the devices which these have contrived.
 3 For the wicked man boasteth of the desire of his soul,
 And the covetous man blesseth *himself*.
 4 The wicked man despiseth Jehovah
 Through the pride of his countenance ; *saying*—
 “ He maketh not inquisition ; God *careth not* ”
 Every thing *is according to* his own devices ;
 5 His ways are at all times successful :
 Thy judgments are too high to be before him.
 He scorneth all his adversaries ;
 6 He saith in his heart, “ I shall never be moved ; ”
 Because he hath not been in adversity.
 7 His mouth is full of perjury, and deceit, and fraud ;
 Under his tongue is mischief and iniquity.

He sitteth in ambush near the villages ; 8
 In secret places he murdereth the innocent.
 His eyes lie in wait for the miserable ;
 He lieth in wait secretly, as a lion in his den. 9
 He lieth in wait to seize the distressed :
 He seizeth the distressed, by dragging him into his net.
 He croucheth, he lieth close, 10
 That the miserable may fall by his strong ones.
 He saith in his heart, "God hath forgotten : 11
 He hideth his face ; he will never see."
 Arise, O Jehovah God, lift up thy hand ; 12
 Forget not the distressed.
 Why should the wicked contemn God ? 13
 Why should he say in his heart, "Thou wilt not make
 inquisition ?"
 Thou seest ; surely thou beholdest mischief and malice ; 14
 That thou mayest requite it with thy hand.
 To thee the poor committeth himself ;
 Thou art the helper of the orphan :
 Break the arm of the wicked and the evil man : 15
 Search out the wicked, till he be no more found.
 Let Jehovah be king for ever and ever : 16
 Let the nations perish out of his land.
 The desires of the distressed thou hearrest, O Jehovah : 17
 Thou wilt establish their heart ; thou wilt incline thine ear,
 To do justice to the orphan and the oppressed ; 18
 That *the wicked* may no more drive men from the land.

PSALM XI.

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.

In Jehovah I put my trust : How say ye to me, 1
 " Flee to the mountains, as a bird ?
 For lo, the wicked have bent the bow, 2
 They have fitted the arrow to the string,
 To shoot in secret at the upright in heart.
 When the foundations are destroyed, 3
 What can the righteous man do ?"
 Jehovah in his holy temple, 4
 Jehovah, whose throne is in the heavens,—
 His eyes behold, his eyelids try,
 The sons of men.
 Jehovah trieth the righteous, 5

But the wicked, and him who loveth violence his soul hateth.

- 6 He will rain upon the wicked flakes of fire,
Sulphur, also, and a burning wind shall be the portion of their cup.
- 7 For Jehovah *who is* righteous, loveth righteousness ;
His face beholdeth the upright.

PSALM XII.

To the Chief Musician upon the Octachord. A Psalm of David.

- 1 SAVE me, O Jehovah, for the godly man faileth ;
For the faithful cease from among the sons of men.
- 2 They speak falsehood every one to his neighbour :
With flattering lips, but with a double heart they speak.
- 3 May Jehovah cut off all flattering lips,
The tongue that speaketh boastful things !
- 4 Of those who say, “ By our tongue we shall prevail,
Our lips are our own : who is lord over us ? ”
- 5 “ On account of the desolation of the poor,
On account of the moaning of the needy,
I will now arise,” saith Jehovah,
“ I will place in safety him who is scorned.”
- 6 The words of Jehovah are pure words,
Silver tried in a crucible,
Purified from earth seven times.
- 7 Thou, O Jehovah, wilt keep them,
Thou wilt preserve them from this generation for ever.
- 8 The wicked walk on every side,
When the vilest men are exalted.

PSALM XIII.

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.

- 1 How long, O Jehovah, wilt thou forget me ? For ever ?
How long wilt thou hide thy face from me ?
- 2 How long shall I take counsel in my soul ?
How long shall there be sorrow in my heart daily ?
How long shall my enemy be exalted above me ?
- 3 Look upon me, hear me, O Jehovah, my God !
Enlighten mine eyes, lest I sleep the *sleep of death* !
- 4 Lest mine enemy say, “ I have prevailed against him ; ”
Lest those who trouble me exult when I am removed.
- 5 But I trust in thy mercy ;

My heart shall rejoice in thy salvation.
I will sing to Jehovah, when he hath recompensed me. 6

PSALM XIV.

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.

THE fool saith in his heart, ‘There is no God.’
They have corrupted, they have made abominable *their*
deeds;
There is no one that doeth good.
Jehovah from the heavens looketh down on the sons of men, 2
To see if there be any man of understanding,
Seeking after God.
Have all turned aside ? Are all corrupt together ? 3
Is there no one that doeth good, not even one ?
Have none of the workers of iniquity knowledge,
Who eat up my people as they would eat bread,
And call not on Jehovah ?
Then shall they greatly fear, 5
When God shall be in the righteous nation.
The counsel of the afflicted ye put to shame,
Because Jehovah is his refuge.
O that from Zion *would come* the salvation of Israel ! 7
When Jehovah bringeth back his captive people,
Jacob shall rejoice, Israel shall be glad.

PSALM XV.

A Psalm of David.

O JEHOVAH, who shall sojourn at thy tabernacle ? 1
And who shall dwell on thy holy mountain ?
He who walketh in integrity and doeth righteousness, 2
And speaketh the truth from his heart ;
Who slandereth not with his tongue, 3
Who injureth not his friend,
And bringeth not a reproach against his neighbour.
In his eyes a worthless person is despised ; 4
But he honoureth those who fear Jehovah.
Though he swear to his own hurt, he changeth not.
His money he lendeth not on usury,
And he taketh not a bribe against the innocent.
He who doeth these things shall never be removed. 5

PSALM XVI.

A Golden Poem, by David.

- 1 PRESERVE me, O God, for I trust in thee.
- 2 I have said of Jehovah, “Thou art my Lord,
My prosperity is not without thee.”
- 3 Of the holy ones who are in the land, *I have said,*
“Them I honour; and all my delight is in them.”
- 4 They multiply their sorrows who hasten backward;
I will not pour out their drink-offerings of blood,
Nor will I take their names upon my lips.
- 5 Jehovah, the portion of my inheritance and of my cup,
Thou sustaineſt my lot.
- 6 The lines have fallen for me on pleasant places,
Truly I have a goodly inheritance.
- 7 I will bless Jehovah who giveth me counsel:
By night also my reins instruct me.
- 8 I place Jehovah before me continually;
Because he is at my right hand I shall not be moved.
- 9 Therefore my heart rejoiceth, and my glory exulteth,
My flesh also dwelleth in security.
- 10 For thou wilt not abandon my soul to the lowermost world,
Nor suffer thy pious one to see corruption.
- 11 Thou wilt shew me the path of life:
In thy presence is fulness of joys:
At thy right hand are pleasures for evermore.

PSALM XVII.

A Prayer of David.

- 1 HEAR the righteous, O Jehovah; attend to my cry;
Listen to my prayer, that is not from deceitful lips.
- 2 From thee let my sentence come forth;
Let thine eyes see what is right.
- 3 Thou provest my heart; thou visitest me by night,
Thou triest me, *but* findest no evil purpose in me;
My mouth shall not transgress.
As for the deeds of men,
- 4 By the command of thy lips
I have kept from the path of the violent.
- 5 Support thou my steps in thy ways,
Let not my footsteps slip.
- 6 I call upon thee, because thou wilt hear me, O God;
Incline thine ear to me, hear my words.

Shew thy loving kindness, thou who savest those who trust 7
 in thee,
 From those who rise up against thy right hand. 8
 Guard me as the apple of the eye ;
 Hide me under the shadow of thy wings, 9
 From the wicked who would destroy me,
From mine enemies who cruelly compass me about.
 They are inclosed in their fat ; 10
 With their mouth they speak boastfully.
 They have already encompassed our steps, 11
 They fix their eyes, crouching on the ground,
 Like a lion greedy of his prey, 12
 And as a young lion lurking in secret places.
 Arise, O Jehovah, prevent him, cast him down : 13
 Deliver me from the wicked *by* the sword ;
 From men, *by* thy hand, O Jehovah ; 14
 From men whose portion in life is durable ;
 Whose belly thou fillest with thy stores ;
 Who abound in children,
 And who leave the remainder to their young ones.
 Let me behold thy face in righteousness ! 15
 Let me be satisfied, in awaking, with thy likeness.

PSALM XVIII.

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of the servant of Jehovah,
 David, who spake to Jehovah the words of this Ode, when
 Jehovah had delivered him from the hand of all his enemies,
 as well as from the hand of Saul ; then he said

I WILL greatly love thee, O Jehovah, my strength. 1
 Jehovah, my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer ! 2
 My God, my defender, in whom I trust !
 My shield, and the horn of my safety, my high tower !
 In despair, I called upon Jehovah, 3
 And I was saved from mine enemies.
 The billows of death had encompassed me,
 Destructive torrents made me afraid.
 The toils of the grave surrounded me,
 The snares of death were spread before me.
 In my distress I called upon Jehovah, 6
 And to my God I cried aloud :
 He heard my voice from his temple,
 And my cry before him reached his ears.
 The earth then shook and trembled ; 7

- The foundations of the mountains were violently moved
and were shaken ;
For he was wroth.
- 8 Smoke rose from his nostrils,
And fire from his mouth consumed :
Flakes of fire were kindled by it.
- 9 He bowed the heavens and came down,
And darkness was under his feet.
- 10 Upon a cherub he rode, and flew ;
And he moved swiftly on the wings of the wind.
- 11 He made darkness his secret place around him ;
His pavilion, the dark waters and thick clouds of the
skies.
- 12 At the brightness of his presence the thick clouds passed
away ;
There was hail and flakes of fire.
- 13 And Jehovah thundered in the heavens,
And the Most High uttered his voice.
- 14 And he sent forth his arrows, and scattered them ;
And he multiplied his lightnings and discomfited them.
- 15 Then were seen the channels of the sea,
And the foundations of the world were revealed,
At thy rebuke, O Jehovah,
At the blast of the breath of thy nostrils.
- 16 He stretched forth *his hand* from above, he took me,
He drew me out of many waters.
- 17 He delivered me from my strong enemy,
And from those who hated me, because they were too
powerful for me.
- 18 They had surprised me in the day of my calamity,
But Jehovah was my support.
- 19 And he brought me forth into a wide place :
He delivered me, because he delighted in me.
- 20 Jehovah rewarded me according to my righteousness ;
According to the cleanness of my hands he requited me.
- 21 Because I had kept the ways of Jehovah,
And had not wickedly departed from my God.
- 22 For all his laws were before me,
And I did not put away his statutes from me.
- 23 But I was upright before him,
And kept myself from mine iniquity.
- 24 Therefore Jehovah hath requited me according to my
righteousness,

According to the cleanness of my hands in his sight.

With the merciful thou wilt show thyself merciful ; 25
 With the upright thou wilt show thyself upright ;
 With the pure thou wilt show thyself pure ;
 And with the perverse thou wilt show thyself perverse.
 Surely an afflicted people thou wilt save ;
 But lofty looks thou wilt bring down.

Surely thou lightest my lamp ; 28
 Jehovah God enlighteneth my darkness.
 For by thee I have broken through a troop, 29
 And by my God I have leaped over a wall.

The way of God is perfect ; 30
 The word of Jehovah is tried :
 He is a buckler to all who trust in him.
 For who is God except Jehovah ; 31
 And who is a rock but our God ?
 The God who girdeth me with strength, 32
 And maketh my way clear ;
 Who maketh my feet like the feet of hinds, 33
 And placeth me firmly on my high places ;
 Who instructeth my hands for battle, 34
 So that my arms bend a bow of brass.
 Thou also hast given me the shield of thy salvation ; 35
 And thy right hand hath held me up,
 And thy kindness hath made me great.
 Thou hast enlarged my steps under me, 36
 That my feet might not slip.
 I pursued mine enemies and overtook them ; 37
 And I returned not until they were destroyed.
 I wounded them so that they could not rise ; 38
 They fell down under my feet.
 For thou girdedst me with strength for battle, 39
 Thou subduedst under me those who had risen up against

me.
 Thou deliveredst to me the necks of mine enemies, 40
 So that I might utterly destroy those who hate me.
 They cried, but there was none to save them ; 41
 To Jehovah, but he answered them not.
 Then I beat them small as dust before the wind, 42
 I trampled them down as the mire of the streets.
 Thou hast delivered me from the contentions of peoples, 43
 Thou hast placed me at the head of nations.
 A people whom I knew not hath become subject to me : 44

- As soon as they hear, they are obedient.
 45 Foreign nations constrainedly submit to me,
 Foreign nations are dispirited,
 And tremble within their strongholds.
 46 Live, O Jehovah ! and blessed be my rock !
 And exalted be the God of my salvation !
 47 The God who hath granted me vengeance,
 And subdued peoples under me,
 48 Delivering me from mine enemies !
 Truly thou hast raised me above those who rose up against
 me ;
 Thou hast delivered me from the violent man.
 49 Wherefore I will give thanks to thee, O Jehovah, among
 the nations,
 And to thy name I will sing praise.
 50 To Him who worketh great deliverance for his king,
 And sheweth mercy to his anointed,
 To David and to his seed for ever.

PSALM XIX.

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.

- 1 THE heavens declare the glory of God ;
 And the firmament sheweth the work of his hands.
 2 Day to day uttereth speech,
 And night unto night sheweth knowledge.
 3 There is no speech, and no words ;
 Their voice is not heard :
 4 Yet through all the earth their sound goeth forth,
 And their words to the end of the world.
 5 In them he hath fixed a tabernacle for the sun ;
 And he, as a bridegroom, cometh forth from his chamber ;
 He rejoiceth, as a strong man, to run a race.
 6 His going forth is from the end of the heavens,
 And his circuit is to the end of them :
 So that nothing is hidden from his heat.
 7 The law of Jehovah is perfect, refreshing the soul ;
 The precepts of Jehovah are true, making wise the simple ;
 8 The statutes of Jehovah are right, rejoicing the heart ;
 The commandments of Jehovah are clear, enlightening the
 eyes ;
 9 The fear of Jehovah is pure, enduring for ever ;
 The laws of Jehovah are true, and righteous altogether.

- More to be desired than gold, yea than much fine gold ; 10
 Sweeter also than honey, and the droppings of the honey-comb.
 Moreover, by them is thy servant admonished : 11
 In keeping them is great reward.
 Who can discern *his* errors ? 12
 Cleanse me from hidden faults,
 Restraine thy servant also from presumptuous sins ! 13
 Let them not have dominion over me !
 Then shall I be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.
 May the words of my mouth be acceptable, 14
 And the meditations of my heart, before thee,
 O Jehovah ! my rock and my redeemer !

PSALM XX.

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.

- MAY Jehovah answer thee in the day of trouble ! 1
 May the name of the God of Jacob set thee on high !
 May he send thee help from the sanctuary, 2
 And from Zion may he sustain thee !
 May he remember all thine offerings, 3
 And accept thy burnt sacrifices.
 May he give thee according to thy heart, 4
 And fulfil all thy counsel !
 We will rejoice in thy safety, 5
 And in the name of our God we will set up our banners.
 May Jehovah fulfil all thy requests !
 Now I know that Jehovah saveth his anointed : 6
 He will answer him from his holy heavens,
 With the saving might of his right-hand.
 Some *may* glory in chariots, and some in horses, 7
 But we will glory in the name of Jehovah our God.
 They shall crouch and fall, 8
 But we shall rise up and stand firm.
 O Jehovah, save the king ! 9
 He will answer us when we call.

PSALM XXI.

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.

- O JEHOVAH, the king rejoiceth in thy strength ; 1
 And in thy salvation how greatly doth he exult !

- 2 The desire of his heart thou hast granted him,
And the request of his lips thou hast not withholden.
3 Thou hast even prevented him with the richest blessings ;
And thou hast placed a crown of pure gold upon his head.
4 Life he asked of thee ;
Thou hast given him length of days for ever and ever.
5 Great is his glory through thy salvation :
Honour and majesty thou hast conferred on him.
6 For thou hast made him most blessed for ever :
Thou hast gladdened him with the joy of thy countenance.
7 For the king trusteth in Jehovah,
And through the kindness of the Most High, he shall not
be moved.
8 Thy hand shall find out all thy foes ;
Thy right-hand shall find out those who hate thee.
9 Thou wilt make them like a fiery furnace in the time
of thine anger :
Jehovah in his wrath will destroy them, and fire will con-
sume them.
10 Their fruit thou wilt destroy from the earth,
And their seed from amongst the sons of men.
11 Because they devised evil against thee ;
They imagined mischief, *which* they could not execute.
12 For thou shalt place them as a mark ;
On thy bow-strings thou shalt prepare *thine arrows* against
them.
13 Be thou exalted, O Jehovah, in thy strength :
We will sing and celebrate thy power.

PSALM XXII.

To the Chief Musician upon Ailet Heschecher.
A Psalm of David.

- 1 My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me ?
Why art thou so far from my cry, from the words of my
roaring ?
2 My God ! I cry by day, but thou answerest not,
And by night, yet I have no quiet.
3 Yet thou art the Holy One,
Who dwellest among the praises of Israel.
4 In thee our fathers trusted ;
They trusted, and thou delivereddst them.
5 To thee they cried, and were rescued ;

- In thee they trusted, and were not confounded.
But I am a worm, and not a man : 6
The reproach of men, and the contempt of the people.
All they who see me laugh me to scorn,
They open wide the lip, they shake the head.
“ He rejoiced in Jehovah, let him rescue him ;
Let him deliver him, since he delighteth in him.”
Thou, indeed, art he who drewest me forth from the womb ;
Making me to trust when I was on my mother’s breasts.
On thee I was cast from the womb ; 10
From the womb of my mother thou hast been my God.
Be not far from me, for trouble is near ;
For there is no one to help me.
Many bulls surround me,
Fierce bulls of Bashan encompass me.
They open wide their mouths against me,
Like a ravening and roaring lion.
As water I am poured out, and all my bones are out of joint ;
My heart like wax is melted within me.
My strength is dried up like a potsherd ; 15
And my tongue cleaveth to my jaws ;
And thou hast laid me in the dust of death.
For dogs surround me ;
An assembly of the wicked inclose me ;
They pierce my hands and my feet.
I can number all my bones : 17
They gaze, they look on me with delight.
They divide my garments amongst them,
And for my clothing they cast lots.
But be not thou, O Jehovah, far from me,
O my strength, hasten to mine aid ; 19
Deliver my soul from the sword ;
My precious life from the power of the dog.
Save me from the mouth of the lion ;
And from the horns of the buffaloes answer me.
I will declare thy name to my brethren ;
In the midst of the congregation I will praise thee.
“ Ye who fear Jehovah, praise him ! 23
All ye seed of Jacob, honour him ;
And revere him, all ye seed of Israel ;
Because he hath not despised nor disdained 24

- The afflictions of the afflicted,
 Neither hath he hidden his face from him ;
 But when he cried to him, he heard.”
- 25 Of thee shall be my praise in the great assembly ;
 My vows I will pay in the presence of those who fear him.
 26 The needy shall eat and be satisfied ;
 They shall praise Jehovah who seek him ;
 Your heart shall be revived for ever.
- 27 All the land to the remotest parts shall remember,
 And return to Jehovah ;
 And all the families of the nations shall bow down before
 thee.
- 28 For the kingdom is Jehovah’s,
 And he is the ruler among the nations.
- 29 All the rich of the land shall eat and bow down before
 him.
 Before him shall bend all who were going down to the dust,
 30 And he who could not preserve his own soul.
 A seed shall serve him, and be accounted Jehovah’s.
- 31 Through generations they shall come
 And declare his righteousness ;
 To a people to be born, what he hath done.

PSALM XXIII.

A Psalm of David.

- 1 JEHOVAH is my shepherd, I shall not want.
 2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures ;
 He leadeth me beside still waters.
 3 He refresheth my soul, he leadeth me
 In straight paths, for his name’s sake.
 4 Even though I should walk through a valley of the shadow
 of death,
 I would fear no evil ; for thou wouldest be with me ;
 Thy staff and thy crook would comfort me.
 5 Thou spreadest before me a table in the sight of mine
 enemies :
 Thou anointest my head with oil ;
 My cup overfloweth.
 6 Surely goodness and loving-kindness will follow me
 All the days of my life ;
 And I shall dwell in the house of Jehovah,
 For a length of days.

PSALM XXIV.

A Psalm of David.

THE earth is Jehovah's, and the fulness thereof ;
 The world, and all who dwell therein :
 For he founded it by the seas,
 And by the rivers he hath established it.

Who shall ascend the mountain of Jehovah ;
 And who shall stand in his holy place ?
 The clean of hands, and the pure of heart ;
 He who hath not lifted up his soul to vanity,
 Nor sworn deceitfully.
 He shall receive a blessing from Jehovah,
 And righteousness from the God of his salvation.
 Such is the generation of those who inquire after Him ;
 Of those who seek thy face, O God of Jacob.

Lift up your heads, O ye gates ;
 And be ye lifted up, ye everlasting doors,
 That the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of glory ?
 Jehovah, strong and mighty,
 Jehovah, mighty in battle !

Lift up your heads, O ye gates,
 And be ye lifted up, ye everlasting doors,
 That the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of glory ?
 Jehovah of hosts,
 He is the King of glory !

PSALM XXV.

A Psalm of David.

To thee, O Jehovah, I lift up my soul,
 O my God, in thee I trust.
 Let me not be ashamed ;
 Let not mine enemies triumph over me :

- 3 Yea, let none who wait for thee be ashamed ;
 Let them be ashamed who transgress without cause.
- 4 Make me to know thy ways, O Jehovah ;
 Teach me thy paths.
- 5 Guide me in thy truth, and teach me,
 For thou art the God of my salvation :
 For thee do I wait all the day.
- 6 Remember thy tender mercies, O Jehovah,
 And thy loving-kindness ; for they have been from of old.
- 7 The sins of my youth and my transgressions remember
 not :
- 8 According to thy loving-kindness remember thou me,
 For the sake of thy goodness, O Jehovah.
 Good and upright is Jehovah ;
 Therefore he will instruct sinners in the way.
- 9 He will guide the meek in *his* judgments,
 And he will teach the meek his way.
- 10 All the paths of Jehovah are kindness and truth,
 To such as keep his covenant and his testimonies.
- 11 For thy name's sake, O Jehovah,
 Pardon mine iniquity, although it is great.
- 12 Who is the man that feareth Jehovah ?
 He will instruct him in the way he should choose.
- 13 He himself shall dwell in prosperity,
 And his seed shall inherit the land.
- 14 The counsel of Jehovah is with those who fear him ;
 And he will make known to them his covenant.
- 15 Mine eyes are ever towards Jehovah,
 For he will bring my feet out of the net.
- 16 Look upon me and be gracious to me,
 For I am solitary and afflicted.
- 17 Remove the anguish of my heart ;
 Bring me forth from my distresses.
- 18 Look upon mine affliction and my trouble,
 And forgive all my sins.
- 19 Behold mine enemies, for they are many,
 And they hate me with unjust hatred.
- 20 Guard my soul, and deliver me :
 Let me not be ashamed ; for I trust in thee.
- 21 Let integrity and uprightness preserve me ;
 For I wait for thee.
- 22 Redeem Israel, O God, from all his distresses.

PSALM XXVI.

A Psalm of David.

JUDGE thou me, O Jehovah ;	1
For I walk in mine integrity :	
Since I trust in Jehovah, I shall not slip.	2
Examine me, O Jehovah, and try me ;	
Prove my reins and my heart.	3
For thy loving-kindness is before mine eyes ;	
And I walk in thy truth.	4
I sit not with men of falsehood,	
And with dissemblers I go not.	5
I hate the assembly of evil-doers ;	
And with the wicked I sit not.	6
I wash my hands in innocence,	
When I go round thine altar, O Jehovah,	7
To make my voice heard in praise,	
And to recount all thy wonderful works.	8
O Jehovah, I love the habitation of thy house,	
And the place where thy glory dwelleth.	9
Take not away my soul with sinners,	
Nor my life with bloody men,	10
In whose hands is mischief,	
And whose right-hand is full of bribes.	11
But I will walk in my integrity :	
Redeem me, and be gracious to me.	12
My foot standeth on even ground ;	
In the assemblies I will bless Jehovah.	

PSALM XXVII.

A Psalm of David.

JEHOVAH is my light and my salvation ;	1
Whom should I fear ?	
Jehovah is the strength of my life ;	2
Of whom should I be afraid ?	
When the wicked came against me,	
To devour my flesh ;	3
When my adversaries and my foes came,	
They stumbled and fell.	
Though a host encamp against me,	
My heart will not fear ;	
Though war be raised against me,	
Still I will have confidence.	

- 4 One thing I ask of Jehovah, that will I seek ;
 That I may dwell in the house of Jehovah,
 All the days of my life ;
 To behold the beauty of Jehovah,
 And to inquire in his temple.
- 5 For he will hide me in his pavilion in the day of evil,
 He will conceal me in the secret place of his tabernacle :
 He will place me on high on a rock.
- 6 Even now shall my head be exalted above mine enemies
 around me ;
 And I will offer at his tabernacle sacrifices of praise ;
 I will sing and give praise to Jehovah.
- 7 Hear my voice, O Jehovah, when I call ;
 And be gracious to me, and answer me.
- 8 My heart repleteh to thee *when thou sayest*,—
 “ Seek ye my face : ”—
 “ Thy face, O Jehovah, I will seek.”
- 9 Hide not thy face from me ;
 Turn not away thy servant in anger :
 Thou hast been my help ; leave me not,
 Neither forsake me, O God of my salvation.
- 10 Though my father and my mother forsake me,
 Yet Jehovah will receive me.
- 11 Teach me thy way, O Jehovah,
 And lead me in a straight path,
 On account of mine enemies.
- 12 Deliver me not over to the will of mine enemies ;
 For false witnesses have risen up against me,
 And he that breatheth violence.
- 13 I have believed that I shall behold the goodness of Je-
 hovah
 In the land of the living.
- 14 Wait thou for Jehovah, be of good courage,
 And he will strengthen thy heart :
 Wait, then, for Jehovah.

PSALM XXVIII.

A Psalm of David.

- 1 To thee I call, O Jehovah, my rock ;
 Be not silent to me ;
 Lest, if thou be silent to me,
 I be like those who go down to the pit.

Hear the voice of my supplication when I cry to thee, 2
When I lift up my hands towards thy holy oracle.
Draw me not away with the wicked, 3
And with the workers of iniquity,
Who speak peaceably to their neighbours,
While mischief is in their heart.
Give to them according to their deeds, 4
And according to the wickedness of their doings.
According to the work of their hands give to them ;
Render to them their desert.
Because they attend not to the deeds of Jehovah, 5
Nor to the work of his hands,
He will destroy them, and will not build them up again.
Blessed be Jehovah, 6
For he hath heard the voice of my supplication.
Jehovah is my strength and my shield : 7
My heart trusted in him, and I am helped.
Therefore my heart exulteth,
And in my song I will praise him.
Jehovah is the strength of his people, 8
And the saving strength of his anointed.
Save thy people, and bless thine inheritance ; 9
And feed them, and exalt them for ever.

PSALM XXIX.

A Psalm of David.

GIVE to Jehovah, ye sons of the mighty, 1
Give to Jehovah glory and strength !
Give to Jehovah the glory due to his name ! 2
Worship Jehovah in holy beauty !
The voice of Jehovah is upon the waters, 3
The God of glory thundereth ;
Jehovah *thundereth* upon the great waters.
The voice of Jehovah is powerful ; 4
The voice of Jehovah is full of majesty.
The voice of Jehovah breaketh the cedars ; 5
Jehovah even breaketh the cedars of Lebanon ;
And he maketh Lebanon to skip like a calf, 6
And Sirion like a young buffalo.
The voice of Jehovah divideth the flames of fire ; 7
The voice of Jehovah shaketh the wilderness ;
The voice of Jehovah shaketh the wilderness of Kadesh. 8

- 9 The voice of Jehovah maketh the hinds to calve,
And layeth bare the forests ;
While in his temple every thing declarereth his glory.
- 10 Jehovah sitteth above the flood ;
And Jehovah shall sit king for ever.
- 11 May Jehovah give strength to his people !
May Jehovah bless his people with peace !

PSALM XXX.

A Psalm of David. An Ode at the Dedication of the House.

- 1 I WILL extol thee, O Jehovah, because thou hast raised me up,
And hast not suffered my foes to rejoice over me.
- 2 O Jehovah my God, I cried to thee, and thou hast healed me.
- 3 O Jehovah, thou hast brought me up from the grave :
Thou hast revived me, that I might not be amongst those who go down to the pit.
- 4 Sing ye to Jehovah, O ye his saints,
And praise ye the memorial of his holiness.
- 5 For there is but a moment in his anger,
But life in his favour.
Weeping may lodge *with us* in the evening,
But in the morning there is joy.
- 6 I, indeed, said in my tranquillity,
“I shall never be moved :
- 7 By thy favour, O Jehovah,
Thou hast made my mountain to stand strong.”
Thou didst hide thy face, I was troubled.
- 8 To thee, O Jehovah, I called,
And to Jehovah I made supplication :
- 9 “What profit will there be in my blood,
In my going down to corruption ?
Can the dust praise thee ?
Can it declare thy faithfulness ?
- 10 Hear, O Jehovah, and be gracious to me :
O Jehovah, be thou my aid.”
- 11 Thou hast changed for me my mourning into dancing ;
Thou hast loosed my sackcloth, and girded me with joy.
- 12 Therefore my glory shall sing praise to thee, and not be silent :
O Jehovah, my God, for ever will I praise thee.

PSALM XXXI.

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.

- IN thee, O Jehovah, I trust, 1
 Let me never be ashamed :
 Deliver me in thy righteousness.
 Incline thy ear to me, deliver me speedily : 2
 Be to me a rock of strength,
 A fortress to save me.
 For thou art my rock and my fortress : 3
 Therefore, for thy name's sake, lead me and guide me.
 Bring me out of the net which they have secretly laid for 4
 me ;
 For thou art my strength. 5
 Into thy hands I commit myself :
 Thou hast redeemed me, O Jehovah, God of truth. 6
 I hate those who regard lying vanities ;
 But I trust in Jehovah. 7
 I will exult and rejoice in thy kindness,
 Because thou hast seen mine affliction ;
 Thou hast acknowledged me in adversities ;
 And hast not shut me up in the power of the foe : 8
 Thou hast set my feet in a wide place.
 Be gracious to me, O Jehovah, for I am in distress ; 9
 Mine eye, my soul, and my body are wasted by vexation.
 For my life is consumed with sorrow, 10
 And my years with sighing :
 My strength faileth by reason of mine affliction,
 And my bones are wasted.
 I am the reproach of all mine enemies, 11
 A burden to my neighbours,
 And a terror to my acquaintance :
 They who see me in the street flee from me.
 I am forgotten as one dead : 12
 I am out of remembrance as a perishing vessel.
 When I hear the slander of many, 13
 Terror is on every side ;
 While they take counsel together against me,
 While they are plotting to take away my life.
 Yet in thee, O Jehovah, I trust ; 14
 I say, "Thou art my God,
 In thy hands are my times. 15

Deliver me from the power of mine enemies and my persecutors;

- 16 Make thy face to shine upon thy servant ;
Save me through thy loving-kindness, O Jehovah :
- 17 Let me not be ashamed, since I call upon thee :
Let the wicked be ashamed ; let them be silenced in the grave.
- 18 Let the lips of falsehood be struck dumb,
That speak harshly against a just person,
With haughtiness and contempt."
- 19 How great is thy goodness,
Which thou treasurest up for those who fear thee !
Which thou preparest for those who trust in thee,
In the presence of the sons of men !
- 20 Thou hidest them in the secret place of thy presence,
From the conspiracies of men :
Thou hidest them in a pavilion,
From the contention of tongues.
- 21 Blessed be Jehovah,
Who hath showed me his wonderful kindness in a besieged city.
- 22 I had said, indeed, in my confusion,
"I am cut off from before thine eyes :"
But thou didst hear the voice of my supplication,
When I cried to thee.
- 23 Love Jehovah, all ye his saints :
Jehovah guardeth the faithful,
But abundantly repayeth him who acteth proudly.
- 24 Be of good courage, and he will strengthen your heart,
All ye who hope in Jehovah.

PSALM XXXII.

A Psalm of David.

- 1 HAPPY is he whose transgression is forgiven,
Whose sin is covered !
- 2 Happy the man to whom Jehovah imputeth not iniquity,
And in whose spirit is no deceit !
- 3 When I was silent, my bones wasted,
Through my roaring all the day.
- 4 For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me ;
My moisture was turned into the drought of summer.
- 5 I acknowledged my sin to thee,

And mine iniquity I covered not.
 I said, "I will confess my transgression to Jehovah ;"
 And thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.
 Therefore every pious man shall pray to thee,
 At a time when thou mayest be found. 6
 When great waters overflow,
 They shall not reach to him.
 Thou art my hiding-place;
 From distress thou keepest me; 7
 With songs of deliverance thou hast surrounded me.
 I will instruct thee, and direct thee in the way thou shouldest go:
 I will counsel *thee*; mine eye shall be upon thee.
 Be ye not as the horse, 9
 As the mule without understanding,
 Which are fitted with the curb, and the bridle for constraint,
 Because they will not come nigh thee.
 Many sorrows hath the wicked man,
 But loving-kindness surroundeth him who trusteth in Jehovah.
 Rejoice in Jehovah, and exult, ye righteous; 11
 And sing aloud, all ye upright of heart.

PSALM XXXIII.

SING aloud, ye righteous, to Jehovah ; 1
 Praise is becoming to the upright.
 Praise Jehovah on the harp; 2
 Sing to him with the psaltery of ten strings.
 Sing to him a new song; 3
 Play skilfully with shouting.
 For the word of Jehovah is right, 4
 And all his works are *done* in faithfulness.
 He loveth righteousness and justice; 5
 The earth is full of the loving-kindness of Jehovah.
 By the word of Jehovah the heavens were made; 6
 And all their host by the breath of his mouth.
 He gathered the waters of the sea as a heap; 7
 He laid up the depth in storehouses.
 Let all the earth fear Jehovah; 8
 Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.
 For he spake, and it came to pass; 9

- He commanded, and it stood.
 10 Jehovah bringeth to nought the counsel of nations ;
 He maketh the purposes of peoples of no effect.
 11 The counsel of Jehovah standeth for ever,
 The purposes of his heart to all generations.
 12 Happy the nation whose God is Jehovah ;
 The people whom he hath chosen for his inheritance.
 13 From the heavens Jehovah looketh ;
 He seeth all the sons of men.
 14 From the place of his habitation
 He beholdeth all the inhabitants of the earth ;
 15 He who formed all their hearts ;
 Who considereth all their deeds.
 16 No king is saved by the multitude of a host :
 A mighty man is not delivered by great strength.
 17 A horse is a vain thing for safety ;
 Even by his great force he cannot rescue.
 18 Lo, the eye of Jehovah is on those who fear him,
 On those who wait for his loving-kindness ;
 19 To deliver their soul from death,
 And to keep them alive in famine.
 20 Our soul waiteth for Jehovah ;
 He is our help and our shield.
 21 For in him our heart rejoiceth,
 Because in his holy name we trust.
 22 Let thy loving-kindness, O Jehovah, be upon us,
 Since we hope in thee.

PSALM XXXIV.

A Psalm of David, when he changed his behaviour before Abimelech,
 who drove him away and he departed.

- 1 I WILL bless Jehovah at all times ;
 His praise shall continually be in my mouth.
 2 In Jehovah my soul shall boast :
 The bumble shall hear and be glad.
 3 Magnify Jehovah with me,
 And let us exalt his name together.
 4 I sought Jehovah, and he answered me,
 And delivered me from all my fears.
 5 Those who look up to him shall be enlightened,
 And their faces shall not be ashamed.
 6 This afflicted one cried, and Jehovah heard ;

- And he saved him from all his distresses.
 The angel of Jehovah encampeth 7
 Around those who fear him, and delivereth them.
 Taste ye, and see that Jehovah is good : 8
 Happy he who trusteth in him.
 Fear Jehovah, ye his saints, 9
 For there is no want to those who fear him.
 Young lions may be in need, and suffer hunger ; 10
 But they who seek Jehovah shall be in want of no good
 thing.
 Come ye children, hearken unto me ; 11
 I will teach you the fear of Jehovah.
 Who is the man that desireth life, 12
 That loveth days, that he may see good ?
 Guard thy tongue from evil, 13
 And thy lips from speaking deceit.
 Depart from evil, and do good ; 14
 Seek peace, and pursue it.
 The eyes of Jehovah are towards the righteous, 15
 And his ears towards their cry.
 The face of Jehovah is against those who do evil, 16
 To cut off the remembrance of them from the land.
 The righteous cry, and Jehovah heareth, 17
 And he delivereth them from all their distresses.
 Jehovah is near to the broken of heart, 18
 And the contrite of spirit he saveth.
 Many are the evils of the righteous ; 19
 But Jehovah delivereth him from them all.
 He keepeth all his bones ; 20
 Not one of them is broken.
 Evil shall kill the wicked man ; 21
 And all who hate the righteous shall be condemned.
 Jehovah redeemeth the life of his servants ; 22
 And none who trust in him shall be condemned.

PSALM XXXV.

A Psalm of David.

- CONTEND, O Jehovah, with those who contend with me ; 1
 Fight against those who fight against me.
 Take hold of the shield and the buckler, 2
 And arise in mine aid ;
 And draw out the spear, and stop the way, 3

- Against the approach of those who pursue me.
 Say to my soul, "I am thy salvation."
- 4 Let those who seek my life be ashamed and abashed;
 Let those who devise my hurt be turned back, and thrown
 into confusion.
- 5 Let them be as chaff before the wind;
 And let an angel of Jehovah drive them.
- 6 Let their way be dark and slippery;
 And let an angel of Jehovah pursue them.
- 7 For without cause they have hidden their net for me,
 Without cause they have digged a pit for my life.
- 8 Let unexpected destruction come on every one of them;
 And let the net which he hath hidden catch himself:
 Into that very destruction let him fall.
- 9 Then shall my soul exult in Jehovah,
 It shall be joyful in his salvation.
- 10 All my bones shall say,
 "O Jehovah, who is like unto thee,
 Who deliverest the afflicted from him who is stronger than
 he;
 The afflicted and the needy, from him who would despoil
 him?"
- 11 False witnesses have arisen;
 What I have not known they lay to my charge.
- 12 They would repay me evil for good,
 By bereaving me of my life.
- 13 Yet I, during their infirmity,
 Clothed myself with sackcloth;
 I afflicted my soul with fasting,
 And my prayer was turned to my bosom.
- 14 I behaved myself as though he had been my friend, my
 brother;
 Mourning, I bowed down as one bewailing his mother.
- 15 But when I halted they rejoiced, and came together;
 Smiters came together against me, when I knew not;
 They tore me, and ceased not.
- 16 When I limped, they insultingly mocked me,
 They gnashed at me with their teeth.
- 17 O Jehovah, how long wilt thou look on?
 Rescue my life from their destructions,
 My precious life from young lions.
- 18 I will give thee thanks in the great assembly;
 I will praise thee amidst many people.

Let not my false foes rejoice over me ; 19
Let not those who hate me without a cause wink the eye.
 For they speak not of peace, 20
 But devise words of deceit against the quiet in the land.
 They even open widely their mouth against me, 21
 They say, "Aha, aha, our eye seeth."
 Thou seest this, O Jehovah, be not silent; 22
 O Lord, be not far from me.
 Rouse thyself, and awake to my cause, 23
 To my plea, my God and my Lord !
 Judge me according to thy righteousness, O Jehovah, my 24
 God;
 And let not them rejoice over me.
 Let them not say in their heart, "Ah, we have our 25
 desire :"
 Let them not say, "We have swallowed him up."
 Let them together be ashamed and thrown into con- 26
 fusion,
 Who rejoice at my hurt :
 Let them be clothed with shame and disgrace,
 Who act proudly against me.
 Let them sing aloud, and rejoice, who favour my righteous 27
 cause,
 And let them continually say,
 "May Jehovah be magnified, who hath pleasure in the
 prosperity of his servant."
 So shall my tongue speak of thy righteousness, 28
 Of thy praise, all the day long.

PSALM XXXVI.

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.

TRANSGRESSION speaketh to the wicked man within his 1
 heart.
 No fear of God is before his eyes,
 (For he flattereth himself in his own eyes,) 2
 So as to find out his iniquity, and to hate it.
 The words of his mouth are wickedness and deceit: 3
 He careth not to be wise to do good.
 He deviseth mischief on his bed; 4
 He setteth himself in a way which is not good;
 He rejecteth not evil.
 O Jehovah, thy loving-kindness is in the heavens; 5

- Thy faithfulness *reacheth* to the clouds.
 6 Thy righteousness is as the lofty mountains ;
 Thy judgments are a great deep :
 Man and beast thou preservest, O Jehovah.
 7 How precious is thy loving-kindness, O God !
 Therefore the children of men take refuge in the shadow
 of thy wings.
 8 They are satisfied with the plenteousness of thy house,
 And of the river of thy pleasures thou givest them to drink.
 9 For with thee is the fountain of life :
 In thy light we see light.
 10 Continue thy loving-kindness to those who know thee,
 And thy righteousness to the upright of heart.
 11 Let not the foot of pride come to me,
 Nor the hand of the wicked remove me.
 12 There the workers of iniquity are fallen :
 They are cast down, and are not able to rise.

PSALM XXXVII.

A Psalm of David.

- 1 FRET not thyself because of evil men,
 Nor be jealous of the doers of iniquity.
 2 For they shall soon be cut down as the grass,
 And they shall wither as the green herbage.
 3 Trust in Jehovah, and do good ;
 Then thou shalt dwell in the land, and assuredly thou
 shalt be fed.
 4 Delight thyself, also, in Jehovah,
 And he will give to thee the desires of thy heart.
 5 Commit thy way to Jehovah,
 And trust in him, and he will accomplish ;
 6 And he will bring forth thy righteousness as the light ;
 And thy judgment as the noon day.
 7 Wait silently for Jehovah, and place thy hope in him.
 Fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his
 way,
 Because of the man who accomplisheth his evil devices.
 8 Cease from anger, and forsake wrath ;
 Fret not thyself so as in any wise to do evil.
 9 For evil men shall be cut off ;
 But they who wait upon Jehovah, shall inherit the land.
 10 Yet a little while, and the wicked man shall not be ;

- Thou shalt search for his place, but it shall not be ; 11
 But the meek shall inherit the land,
 And shall delight themselves in abundant prosperity.
- The wicked man plotteth against the righteous, 12
 And gnasheth at him with his teeth :
 Jehovah laugheth at him ; 13
 For he seeth that his day is coming.
 The wicked draw the sword, and bend their bow, 14
 To cause the poor and the needy to fall,
 To slay those who are upright in their way.
 Their sword shall enter their own heart, 15
 And their bows shall be broken.
- Better is a little that a righteous man hath, 16
 Than the abundant riches of the wicked.
 For the arms of the wicked shall be broken ; 17
 But Jehovah upholdeth the righteous.
 Jehovah knoweth the days of the perfect ; 18
 And their inheritance shall be for ever.
 They shall not be ashamed in the time of evil ; 19
 And in the days of famine they shall be satisfied.
 But the wicked shall perish, 20
 And the enemies of Jehovah shall be as the fat of lambs :
 They shall disappear, as smoke they shall disappear.
- The wicked man borroweth, and payeth not again ; 21
 But the righteous sheweth favour, and giveth.
 For they who are blessed by Him shall inherit the land ; 22
 And they who are cursed by Him shall be cut off.
 The steps of a man are established by Jehovah ; 23
 And in his way he delighteth.
 Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down : 24
 For Jehovah upholdeth him with his hand.
- I have been young, I am become old ; 25
 Yet I have not seen the righteous man forsaken,
 Nor his seed begging bread.
 Every day he sheweth favour and lendeth, 26
 And his seed is blessed.
 Depart from evil, and do good, 27
 And thou shalt dwell for evermore.
 For Jehovah loveth justice, 28
 And forsaketh not his saints ;
 They are preserved for ever :
 But the seed of the wicked shall be cut off.
 The righteous shall possess the land, 29

And dwell in it for ever.

- 30 The mouth of the righteous man uttereth wisdom,
And his tongue speaketh justice.
31 The law of his God is in his heart;
His steps shall not slip.
32 The wicked man watcheth for the righteous,
And seeketh to kill him.
33 Jehovah will not leave him in his power,
Nor condemn him when he is judged.
34 Wait upon Jehovah, and keep his way,
And he will exalt thee to possess the land ;
The cutting off of the wicked thou shalt see.
35 I have seen the wicked man terrible,
And spreading himself like a green native tree :
36 Yet he passed away, and, lo, he was not ;
And I sought him, but he was not to be found.
37 Observe the perfect man, and behold the upright ;
For the posterity of that man is prosperous.
38 But transgressors shall be destroyed together ;
The posterity of the wicked shall be cut off.
39 The salvation of the just is from Jehovah ;
Their strength in the time of distress :
40 And Jehovah helpeth them and delivereth them.
He delivereth them from the wicked ;
And he saveth them, because they trust in him.

PSALM XXXVIII.

A Psalm of David. To bring to remembrance.

- 1 O JEHOVAH, reprove me not in thine anger,
Nor chasten me in thy wrath.
2 For thine arrows have sunk deep into me,
And thy hand presseth heavily upon me.
3 There is no soundness in my flesh, because of thine indignation ;
No rest in my bones, because of my sin.
4 For mine iniquities have passed over my head ;
As a heavy burden they are too heavy for me.
5 My wounds are loathsome, they are corrupt,
Because of my folly.
6 I am made to stoop ; I am bowed down greatly ;
All the day long I go mourning.
7 For my loins are filled with a burning heat ;

And no soundness is in my flesh. 8
 I am enfeebled and exceedingly wasted :
 I roar through the disquietude of my heart. 9
 O Jehovah, before thee is all my desire ;
 And my sighing is not hidden from thee.
 My heart is disturbed, my strength hath forsaken me ; 10
 And the very light of mine eyes is not with me.
 They who loved me and were my friends, stand at a dis- 11
 tance from my sores :
 Even my kindred stand afar off ;
 While they who seek my life lay snares, 12
 And they who seek my hurt speak malicious things,
 And meditate deceits all the day long.
 But I am as a deaf man, I hear not ; 13
 And as a dumb man who openeth not his mouth.
 I am as a man who heareth not, 14
 And in whose mouth are no reproofs.
 For in thee, O Jehovah, I hope ; 15
 Thou wilt answer, O Jehovah, my God.
 For I said, " Lest they should rejoice over me ; 16
 If my foot slip, they will behave proudly to me."
 For I am ready to halt, 17
 And my grief is continually before me ;
 Though I declare my iniquity, 18
 Though I am much grieved for my sin.
 But mine enemies are living, they are strong ; 19
 And they who hate me wrongfully are multiplied.
 And they render to me evil for good ; 20
 They are adverse to me in return for my good.
 Forsake me not, O Jehovah : 21
 O my God, be not far from me.
 Hasten to mine aid, O Jehovah, my salvation. 22

PSALM XXXIX.

To the Chief Musician. To Jeduthun. A Psalm of David.

I SAID, " I will take heed to my ways, 1
 That I sin not with my tongue :
 I will keep my mouth with a bridle,
 While the wicked is before me." 2
 I was dumb in silence ; I refrained even from good ;
 But my grief was greatly moved ;
 My heart was hot within me. 3

- In my complaint the fire burned ;
I speake with my tongue.
- 4 " Make me, O Jehovah, to know mine end,
And the measure of my days, what it is,
That I may know how frail I am.
- 5 Lo, thou makest my days a hand-breadth,
And the length of my life is as nothing in thy sight.
Verily every man in his firmest state is altogether vanity.
- 6 Verily man walketh as a shadow ;
Verily they are disquieted in vain ;
He heapeh up *riches*, and knoweth not who shall gather
them.
- 7 And now, O Jehovah, what look I for ?
My hope is in thee.
- 8 From all my transgressions deliver me ;
Make me not the reproach of the foolish.
- 9 I was dumb, I opened not my mouth,
Because thou didst *it*.
- 10 Remove thy stroke from me :
By the blow of thy hand I am consumed.
- 11 When with reproofs thou dost correct a man, on account
of iniquity,
Thou consumest, as a moth, his comeliness.
Verily every man is vanity.
- 12 Hear my prayer, O Jehovah,
And listen to my cry ;
Be not silent at my tears :
For I am a stranger with thee,
A sojourner, as were all my fathers.
- 13 Turn from me that I may be cheerful,
Before I go away, and be no more."

PSALM XL.

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.

- 1 I **LOOKED** earnestly to Jehovah ;
And he listened to me, and heard my cry ;
- 2 And he brought me up out of a horrible pit, out of miry
clay,
And set my feet upon a rock, making sure my steps.
- 3 And he put into my mouth a new song, praise to our
God :
Many shall see, and revere, and trust in Jehovah.

Happy the man who maketh Jehovah his trust ; 4
 And looketh not to the proud, and to those who turn aside
 after lies.
 Many things hast thou done, O Jehovah, my God ; 5
 Thy wonderful works, and thy purposes respecting us,
 cannot be set forth in order to thee ;
 Should I declare them, and speak of them, they are more
 than can be numbered.
 Sacrifice and offering thou dearest not ; 6
 (Mine ears thou hast opened ;)
 Burnt-offering and sin-offering thou requirest not.
 Then I said, " Lo, I come ; 7
 In the roll of the book, it is written for me ;
 To do thy will, O God, is my delight : 8
 And thy law is within me."
 I have published thy righteousness in the great assembly ; 9
 Lo, I have not restrained my lips,
 O Jehovah, thou knowest it.
 I have not concealed within my heart thy righteousness ; 10
 I have declared thy faithfulness and thy salvation ;
 I have not concealed thy loving-kindness and thy truth,
 In the great assembly.
 O Jehovah, withhold not thy tender mercies from me ; 11
 Let thy loving-kindness and thy truth continually pre-
 serve me.
 For evils without number have encompassed me ; 12
 Mine iniquities have overtaken me, and I am not able to
 see ;
 They are more than the hairs of my head, and my heart
 faileth me.
 Be pleased, O Jehovah, to deliver me : 13
 O Jehovah, make haste to help me.
 May they be ashamed and confounded together who seek 14
 my life to destroy it !
 May they be driven back and put to shame who desire my
 hurt !
 May they be in consternation on account of their shame, 15
 Who say to me, Aha !—Aha !
 Let all those who seek thee be glad and rejoice in thee ; 16
 And let those who love thy salvation say continually,
 " May Jehovah be magnified ! "
 Since I am afflicted and needy,
 May Jehovah take thought for me. 17

Thou art my helper and deliverer,
O my God, make no delay.

PSALM XLI.

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.

- 1 HAPPY he who taketh charge of the sick man !
In the day of distress Jehovah will deliver him.
- 2 Jehovah will preserve him, and prolong his life :
He shall be happy in the land ;
And Thou wilt not deliver him into the power of his enemies.
- 3 Jehovah will support him on the bed of languishing ;
All his bed Thou wilt change in his sickness.
- 4 I say, “ O Jehovah, be gracious unto me :
Heal me, for I have sinned against thee.
- 5 Mine enemies speak evil of me,
‘ When will he die, and his name perish ? ’
- 6 If one cometh to see me, he speaketh falsehood :
His heart collecteth iniquity ;
He goeth forth, he speaketh it.
- 7 All those that hate me whisper together against me :
They devise evil against me, *saying*,
- 8 ‘ An evil disease cleaveth to him,
And from the place where he lieth, he shall arise no more.’
- 9 Even my familiar friend in whom I trusted,
He who ate of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me.
- 10 But be thou, O Jehovah, gracious to me,
And raise me up that I may requite them.
- 11 By this I shall know that thou hast delight in me,
If mine enemy triumph not over me ;
- 12 And if thou uphold me in mine integrity,
And place me in thy presence for ever.”
- 13 Blessed be Jehovah, God of Israel, from age to age.
Amen, and Amen.

PSALMS XLII. XLIII.

To the Chief Musician. A Poem. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah.

- 1 As the hart crieth after streams of water,
So crieth my soul after thee, O God.

My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God : 2
 When shall I go and behold the face of God ?
 My tears are my food, day and night, 3
 While daily it is said to me, " Where is thy God ? "
 These things I remember, and pour out my soul within 4
 me ;
 That I went with the throng, walking with solemn steps
 to the house of God ;
 With the voice of joy and praise, *with* a multitude keep-
 ing holy-day.
 Why art thou bowed down, O my soul, 5
 And why art thou disquieted within me ?
 Hope thou in God, that I shall yet praise him,
 The health of my countenance and my God.
 My soul is bowed down within me, 6
 When I remember thee from the land of Jordan,
 And from the Hermonites, from the mount Mizar.
 Deep calleth to deep, at the sound of thy water-spouts : 7
 All thy waves and thy billows pass over me.
 By day Jehovah granted to me his loving-kindness,
 And by night his song was with me ; my prayer was to the
 God of my life.
 I said to God, " My rock ! "—Why hast thou forgotten 9
 me ?
 Why go I mourning because of the oppression of the
 enemy ?
 As a sword in my bones, my adversaries reproach me, 10
 When they say to me daily, " Where is thy God ? "
 Why art thou bowed down, O my soul ? 11
 And why art thou disquieted within me ?
 Hope thou in God, that I shall yet praise him,
 The health of my countenance and my God.
 XLIII.—JUDGE me, O God, and plead my cause 1
 Against a cruel nation ;
 From the deceitful and unjust man deliver me.
 Since thou hast been the God of my strength, why dost 2
 thou cast me off ?
 Why go I mourning because of the oppression of the
 enemy ?
 Send forth thy light and thy truth, let them lead me ; 3
 Let them bring me to thy holy mountain, and to thy
 dwelling-place.

- 4 Then will I go to the altar of God,
To God, my exceeding joy;
And I will praise thee upon the harp, O God, my God.
5 Why art thou bowed down, O my soul?
And why art thou disquieted within me?
Hope thou in God, that I shall yet praise him,
The health of my countenance, and my God.

PSALM XLIV.

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah.
A Poem.

- 1 O God, we have heard with our ears,
Our fathers have told us
The work thou didst in their days,
In days of ancient times.
2 Thou with thy hand didst drive out nations, but them
thou didst plant ;
Thou didst afflict peoples, but them thou madest to thrive.
3 For not by their own sword did they take possession of the
land,
Nor did their own arm save them ;
But thy right-hand, and thine arm,
And the light of thy countenance, because thou didst favour
them.
4 Thou art He, my King, O God,
Who didst command deliverances to Jacob.
5 By thee we gored our enemies ;
By thy name we trampled upon those who rose up against us.
6 For in my own bow I trust not,
Nor can my own sword save me.
7 Truly, thou savedst us from our enemies,
And those who hated us thou madest ashamed.
8 In God we boasted every day,
And thy name we praised for ever.
9 But now thou dost cast us off, thou confoundest us ;
And thou goest not forth with our hosts :
10 Thou causest us to turn back from the enemy,
And they who hate us make us their spoil.
11 Thou givest us up, as a flock *destined* for food ;
And thou scatterest us among the nations.
12 Thou sellest thy people for no gain,
And enrichest not thyself by their price.

Thou makest us the reproach of our neighbours, 13
 A scorn and derision to those around us.
 Thou makest us a proverb among the nations, 14
 A shaking of the head among the peoples.
 Every day my confusion is before me, 15
 And the shame of my face covereth me ;
 On account of the voice of the reproachful and the reviler ; 16
 On account of the presence of the enemy and the self-avenger.
 All this hath come upon us, yet have we not forgotten thee ; 17
 Yet have we not acted falsely in thy covenant.
 Our heart hath not turned back, 18
 Nor have our steps declined from thy way.
 Yet thou hast crushed us in the place of serpents, 19
 And covered us with the shadow of death.
 If we had forgotten the name of our God, 20
 And spread forth our hands to a strange god ;
 Would not God have searched out this ? 21
 Since he knoweth the hidden things of the heart.
 Truly, on thy account we are killed every day ; 22
 We are accounted as a flock destined for slaughter.
 Rouse thyself, why sleepest thou, O Jehovah ? 23
 Awake, cast us not off for ever.
 Why hidest thou thy face ? 24
 Why forgettest thou our affliction and our oppression ?
 For our soul is bowed down to the dust, 25
 Our belly cleaveth to the ground.
 Arise, O our help ! 26
 And redeem us, for the sake of thy loving-kindness.

PSALM XLV.

To the Chief Musician ; on the Hexachord. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah. A Poem ; an Ode of Loves.

My heart is overflowing with an excellent matter : 1
 I recite what I have made concerning the king ;
 My tongue is the pen of a swift writer.
 Fairest of the sons of men ! 2
 Grace is poured over thy lips ;
 For God hath blessed thee for ever.
 Gird thy sword on thy thigh, thou mighty man ; 3

- Thy glory and thy majesty ;
 4 And in thy majesty ride forth prosperously,
 In the cause of truth, and meekness, and righteousness ;
 And let thy right hand hurl terrors for thee.
 5 May thine arrows be sharp
 In the heart of the king's enemies :
 May peoples fall under thee.
 6 Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever ;
 A sceptre of justice is the sceptre of thy kingdom.
 7 Thou lovest righteousness and hatest iniquity :
 Therefore, God, thy God hath anointed thee
 With the oil of gladness, above thy companions.
 8 Myrrh, and lign-sloes, and cassia, are all thy garments ;
 Out of ivory wardrobes of Mimi they delight thee.
 9 Daughters of kings are among thy beloved women :
 On thy right-hand standeth the queen, in gold of Ophir.
 10 Hear, O daughter, and see, and incline thine ear ;
 And forget thy people, and the house of thy father :
 11 Then shall the king desire thy beauty,
 For he is thy lord ; and to him bow down.
 12 So shall the daughter of Tyre come with a present ;
 The richest of the people shall entreat thy favour.
 13 All glorious is the king's daughter in her apartments ;
 In robes spangled with gold.
 14 In embroidery she shall be brought to the king :
 Virgins, her companions, following her,
 15 Shall be brought to thee with joy and exultation :
 They shall enter the palace of the king.
 16 Instead of thy fathers, thou shalt have thy sons,
 Whom thou shalt make princes through all the land.
 17 I will cause thy name to be remembered through all
 generations ;
 Therefore peoples shall praise thee for ever and ever.

PSALM XLVI.

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah, upon Olemush. An Ode.

- 1 God is our refuge and strength ;
 A very great help in trouble hath he been found.
 2 Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth be removed ;
 And though the mountains be cast into the midst of the sea.

Though its waters roar and be troubled, 3
Though the mountains shake with its swelling.
 A river with its streams shall make glad the city of God, 4
 The sacred dwelling-place of the Most High.
 God is in the midst of it ; it shall not be moved : 5
 God will help it at the appearing of the morning.
 Nations raged ; kingdoms were moved : 6
 He uttered his voice, the earth melted.
 Jehovah of Hosts is with us ; 7
 The God of Jacob is our stronghold.
 Come, see the works of God, 8
 What desolations he hath made in the land.
 Causing wars to cease to the ends of the land : 9
 The bow he hath broken, and he hath cut in two the
 spear ;
 The chariots he hath burned with fire.
 “Be ye still, and know that I am God : 10
 I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in
 the earth.”
 Jehovah of Hosts is with us ; 11
 The God of Jacob is our stronghold.

PSALM XLVII.

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah.

O CLAP your hands, all ye peoples ! 1
 Shout unto God with the voice of triumph.
 For Jehovah Most High is to be feared ; 2
 A great king over all the earth.
 He subdueth peoples under us, 3
 And nations under our feet.
 He hath chosen for us our inheritance, 4
 The excellency of Jacob whom he loved.
 God is going up with a shout, 5
 Jehovah with the sound of a trumpet.
 Sing praises to God, sing praises ; 6
 Sing praises to our king, sing praises :
 For God is king of all the earth. 7
 Sing praises skilfully :
 God reigneth over the nations ; 8
 God sitteth on his holy throne.
 Princes of peoples are gathered together, 9
 With the God of Abraham :

For the shields of the land are God's :
He is greatly exalted.

PSALM XLVIII.

An Ode. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah.

- 1 GREAT is Jehovah, and greatly to be praised,
In the city of our God, *on* his holy mountain.
- 2 Beautiful in situation, the joy of the whole land,
Is mount Zion :
On the northern side is the city of the great king.
- 3 God is known in its palaces for a stronghold.
- 4 For lo, kings had assembled,
They passed by together.
- 5 When they saw it, they were dismayed ;
They were troubled, they hasted away.
- 6 Trembling seized them there ;
Pangs as of a woman in labour ;
- 7 As when the east-wind dasheth in pieces
The ships of Tarshish.
- 8 As we have heard, so have we seen it *to be*,
In the city of Jehovah of Hosts,
In the city of our God.
God will establish it for ever.
- 9 We meditated, O God, on thy loving-kindness,
Within thy temple.
- 10 According to thy name, O God, so be thy praise,
Unto the end of the earth :
Full of righteousness is thy right-hand.
- 11 Let Mount Zion rejoice,
Let the daughters of Judah exult,
Because of thy judgments, O Jehovah.
- 12 Go around Zion, make a circuit about it ;
Count its towers ;
- 13 Consider well its walls ;
Survey carefully its palaces ;
That ye may relate to the following generation,
That this God is our God, for ever and ever :
He will be our guide until death.

PSALM XLIX.

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah.

- 1 HEAR this, all ye peoples ;
Listen, all ye inhabitants of the world ;

- Both ye of low, and ye of high degree, 2
 Rich and poor together.
 My mouth shall speak wisdom ; 3
 And the meditations of my heart shall be understanding.
 I will incline mine ear to a weighty matter : 4
 I will open my dark saying on the harp.
 Why should I fear in the days of evil, 5
 When the *iniquity* of those who would supplant me is
 about me ?
 Of those who trust in their wealth, 6
 And glory in the abundance of their riches,
 Not one can by any means redeem a brother, 7
 Nor give to God a ransom for him ;
 (For the redemption of their life is costly, 8
 And it ceaseth for ever ;)
 That he should live for ever, 9
 And not see corruption.
 For it is seen that wise men die ; 10
 Together with the fool and the brutish they perish,
 And leave their wealth to others.
 In their thought, their house is everlasting, 11
 Their dwelling-place through all generations ;
 Their names are celebrated in *their* lands ;
 But a man in honour who hath not understanding, 12
 Is like the beasts that perish.
 This their way is their folly ; 13
 Yet they who come after them approve their sayings.
 Like sheep they are laid in the grave ; 14
 Death tendeth them as a shepherd ;
 The just shall tread upon them in the morning ;
 And their form shall waste away in the grave ;
 Every one *driven* from his dwelling.
 But God will redeem my life from the power of the grave ; 15
 For he will take charge of me.
 Be not thou afraid because a man is made rich, 16
 Because the glory of his house is increased.
 For, when he dieth, he shall take nothing away with 17
 him ;
 His glory shall not go down after him.
 Though, while he lived, he accounted himself blessed, 18
 And men praised thee because thou hadst done well for
 thyself,
 He shall go to the generation of his fathers, 19

Who never see light.

- 20 A man in honour, who hath not understanding,
Is like the beasts that perish.

PSALM L.

A Psalm of Assaph.

- 1 THE God of gods, Jekovah, speaketh,
And summoneth the earth,
From the rising of the sun to its going down.
2 Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,
God shineth forth.
3 Our God cometh, and he will not be silent ;
A fire consumeth before him,
And it is very tempestuous round about him.
4 He summoneth the heavens above,
And the earth, while he judgeth his people.
5 "Gather together before me, my saints,
Who have made a covenant with me by sacrifice."
6 So the heavens shall declare his righteousness :
For God himself is judge.
7 "Hear, O my people, while I speak ;
O Israel, while I testify against thee :
God, thy God, am I.
8 Not on account of thy sacrifices, do I reprove thee,
Or thy burnt-offerings, which are continually before me :
9 I will take no bullock from thy house ;
No he-goats from thy folds :
10 For mine is every beast of the forest,
And the cattle upon a thousand hills.
11 I know every fowl of the mountains ;
And the wild beasts of the field are mine.
12 If I were hungry, I would not tell thee ;
For the world is mine, and the fulness thereof.
13 Shall I eat the flesh of bulls,
And shall I drink the blood of goats ?
14 Offer unto God thanksgiving,
And perform thy vows to the Most High.
15 Then call upon me in the day of distress ;
I will deliver thee, and thou shalt honour me."
16 But to the wicked man God saith,
"What is it to thee to declare my statutes,
Or to take my covenant in thy mouth,

While thou hatest instruction, 17
 And castest my words behind thee ?
 If thou seest a thief, thou consentest with him ; 18
 And with adulterers is thy portion.
 Thy mouth thou givest up to evil ; 19
 And thy tongue frameth deceit.
 Thou speakest continually against thy brother ; 20
 Thou slanderest thine own mother's son.
 These things thou hast done, and I was silent ; 21
 Thou thoughtest I was altogether such as thyself.
 I will convict thee and accuse *thee* to thine own eyes.
 Consider this, now, ye who forget God, 22
 Lest I tear you in pieces, and there be no one to deliver.
 He who sacrificeth praise, honoureth me ; 23
 And to him who ordereth *his* way *aright*,
 I will show the salvation of God."

PSALM LI.

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David, when Nathan the Prophet came to him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba.

Be gracious to me, O God, according to thy loving-kindness ; 1
 According to the greatness of thy compassion, blot out my transgressions.
 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, 2
 And cleanse me from my sin.
 For I acknowledge my transgressions ; 3
 And my sin is continually before me.
 Before thee, thee only, have I sinned, 4
 And in thy sight have done evil :
 So that thou art just in thy sentence ;
 Thou art pure in thy judgment.
 Lo, in iniquity I was born, 5
 And in sin my mother conceived me.
 Lo, thou desirest truth in the inmost parts ; 6
 Therefore, in the hidden parts teach me wisdom.
 Purify me with hyssop, that I may be clean ; 7
 Wash me, that I may be whiter than snow.
 Cause me to hear joy and gladness, 8
 That the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice.
 Hide thy face from my sin, 9
 And blot out all mine iniquity.

- 10 Create in me a pure heart, O God,
And renew a right spirit within me.
 11 Cast me not out from thy presence,
And take not thy holy spirit from me.
 12 Restore to me the joy of thy salvation,
And let a free spirit sustain me.
 13 I will teach transgressors thy ways,
And sinners shall turn themselves to thee.
 14 Deliver me from the guilt of blood, O God,
The God of my salvation ;
My tongue shall sing aloud thy righteousness.
 15 O Lord, open thou my lips,
And my mouth shall declare thy praise.
 16 For thou delightest not in sacrifice, else I would have
offered it ;
A burnt-offering thou acceptest not.
 17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit ;
A broken and contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.
 18 Do good in thy favour to Zion ;
And rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.
 19 Then thou wilt have pleasure in the sacrifices of righteousness,
Burnt-offering, and whole burnt-offering :
Then shall bullocks be offered on thine altar.

PSALM LII.

To the Chief Musician. A Poem of David, when Doeg, the Edomite, went and told Saul, and said to him, "David is gone to the house of Ahimelech."

- 1 Why dost thou glory in evil, thou violent man ?
The loving-kindness of God *endureth* continually.
 2 Thy tongue deviseth mischief,
As a sharp razor, working deceitfully.
 3 Thou lovest evil more than good,
Falsehood more than the speaking of truth.
 4 Thou lovest all destructive words,
Thou deceitful tongue.
 5 Truly, God will overthrow thee for ever,
He will take thee away, and pluck thee from *thy* tent,
And will root thee up from the land of the living.
 6 Then will the righteous see and revere ;

And they will laugh at him, *saying,*
 “Lo the violent man;
 He made not God his strength,
 But trusted in the abundance of his riches,
 And placed his strength in his mischief.”
 But I shall be as a green olive-tree, in the house of God: 8
 I trust in the loving-kindness of God for ever and ever.
 I will for ever praise thee, because thou doest it; 9
 And I will wait for thy name,
 For it is good before thy saints.

PSALM LIII.

To the Chief Musician upon Meheleth. A Poem of David.

THE fool saith in his heart, ‘There is no God.’ 1
 They have corrupted and made abominable *their* deeds;
 There is no one that doeth good.
 God from the heavens looketh down on the sons of men, 2
 To see if there be any man of understanding,
 Seeking after God.
 They have all turned aside, they are all corrupt together; 3
 There is no one that doeth good, not even one.
 Have all the workers of iniquity no knowledge,
 Who eat up my people as they would eat bread,
And call not on God?
 Then shall they greatly fear, who did not fear; 5
 When God shall scatter the bones of him who encampeth
against thee:
 They shall be put to shame, for God despiseth them.
 O that from Zion would come the salvation of Israel! 6
 When God bringeth back his captive people,
 Jacob shall rejoice, Israel shall be glad.

PSALM LIV.

To the Chief Musician on Neginoth. A Poem of David, when
 the Ziphites came and said to Saul, “Hath not David con-
 cealed himself among us?”

O God, save me by thy name,
 And by thy might judge me.
 O God, hear my prayer;
 Harken to the words of my mouth.

- 3 For proud men have risen up against me,
And terrible men seek my life :
They place not God before them.
- 4 Lo, God is my helper :
The Lord is among those that support me.
- 5 He will return evil to mine adversaries :
According to thy truth, cut them off.
- 6 A free-will offering I will sacrifice to thee ;
I will praise thy name, O Jehovah, for it is good,
- 7 When he hath delivered me out of all trouble,
And mine eye hath looked with pleasure on mine enemies.

PSALM LV.

To the Chief Musician on Neginoth. A Poem of David.

- 1 HEARKEN, O God, to my prayer ;
And hide not thyself from my supplication :
- 2 Attend unto me, and answer me.
I mourn in my complaint, and am greatly troubled,
- 3 Because of the voice of the enemy,
Because of the oppression of the wicked :
For they lay iniquity upon me,
- 4 And in *their* wrath they assail me.
My heart is in pangs within me ;
- 5 And the terrors of death are fallen upon me.
Fear and trembling are come upon me,
And horror hath overspread me.
- 6 And I say, "O that I had wings as a dove,
I would fly away, and dwell at rest.
- 7 Lo, I would take my flight afar off,
I would abide in the wilderness.
- 8 I would speedily seek for myself a shelter,
From the stormy wind, from the furious tempest."
- 9 Destroy, O Lord, divide their tongues ;
For I see violence and strife in the city.
- 10 Day and night these go about its walls ;
And sorrow and trouble are within it.
- 11 Mischief is within it ;
Fraud and deceit depart not from its streets.
- 12 For it was not an enemy that reproached me ;
Then I could have borne it ;
It was not one who hated me that exalted himself against
me ;

Then I might have hidden myself from him.
 But it was thou, a man whom I valued as myself; 13
 My friend, and my acquaintance.
 We sweetly took counsel together; 14
 We walked amidst the crowd to the house of God.
 May death come suddenly upon them ! 15
 May they go down to the grave alive !
 For wickedness is in their dwellings among them.
 As for me, I will call upon God, 16
 And Jehovah will save me.
 In the evening, and in the morning, and at noon, 17
 I will utter my complaint, and cry aloud,
 And he will hear my voice.
 He will redeem my life, in peace, from this contention,
 Though many are they who are against me. 18
 God will hear, and he will humble them,
 Since he sitteth from of old. 19
 Because no changes have happened to them,
 Therefore they fear not God.
 He hath put forth his hands against those at peace with ²⁰
 him ;
 He hath broken his covenant.
 His mouth is smoother than butter, 21
 But war is in his heart :
 His words are softer than oil,
 Yet are they drawn swords.
 Cast thy burden on Jehovah, and he will support thee : ²²
 He will never suffer the righteous man to be moved.
 But thou, O God, wilt bring them down to the pit of de- ²³
 struction :
 Men of blood and deceit shall not live half their days ;
 But I will trust in thee.

PSALM LVI.

To the Chief Musician upon Iuneth-alem-rehoquim. A Golden
 Psalm of David, when the Philistines took him in Gath.

Be gracious to me, O God ; for man breatheth rage against ¹
 me ;
 Every day, fighting, he would oppress me.
 Mine enemies breathe rage every day : 2
 Truly many are fighting against me proudly.
 When I am afraid, I trust in thee. 3

- 4 In God I glory, *in his word* ;
 In God I trust ;
 I will not fear what flesh can do to me.
 5 Every day they wrest my words ;
 All their designs are against me for evil.
 6 They meet together, they hide themselves,
 They mark my steps, while they wait for my life.
 7 Shall they escape on account of *their* iniquity ?
 In anger cast down the peoples, O God.
 8 Thou numberest my wanderings :
 Put thou my tears into thy bottle :
 Are they not in thy book ?
 9 Then let mine enemies be turned back when I call :
By this I shall know that God is for me.
 10 In God I glory, *in his word* ;
 In Jehovah I glory, *in his word* ;
 11 In God I trust ;
 I will not fear what man can do to me.
 12 Thy vows are upon me, O God ;
 I will render praises unto thee :
 13 For thou hast delivered my soul from death ;
Wilt thou not deliver my feet from falling,
 That I may walk before God,
 In the light of the living ?

PSALM LVII.

To the Chief Musician. Al-tesheheth. A Golden Psalm of David,
 when he fled from the presence of Saul to a cave.

- 1 Be gracious to me, O God, be gracious to me ;
 For in thee I trust ;
 And in the shadow of thy wings I will trust,
 Till calamity shall have passed away.
 2 I will call unto God, Most High,
 To God who accomplisheth *all* for me.
 3 He will send forth from the heavens, and save me,
 From the reproach of him who breatheth rage against
 me.
 God will send forth his kindness and his faithfulness.
 4 My life is in the midst of lions ;
 I lie amidst flames ; *amidst* sons of men,
 Whose teeth are spears and arrows,
 And whose tongue is a sharp sword.

- Exalt thyself above the heavens, O God ; 5
 Let thy glory be above all the earth.
 They have prepared a net for my steps ; 6
 My soul is bowed down :
 They have digged a pit before me ;
 They themselves shall fall into it.
 My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed ; 7
 I will sing, and give praise.
 Awake, my glory, awake, lute and harp ; 8
 I will awake early.
 I will praise thee among the peoples, O Jehovah ; 9
 I will sing of thee among the nations :
 For thy loving-kindness reacheth unto the heavens, 10
 And unto the clouds thy faithfulness.
 Exalt thyself above the heavens, O God ; 11
 Let thy glory be above all the earth !

PSALM LVIII.

To the Chief Musician. Al-teshehefh. A Golden Psalm of David.

- Do ye indeed, O ye gods, decree righteously ? 1
 Do ye judge uprightly, ye sons of men ?
 Truly, in *your* heart ye contrive iniquities ; 2
 Your hands weigh out violence in the land.
 The wicked are unjust from the womb ; 3
 They go astray from the birth, speaking falsehood.
 They have poison, as the poison of a serpent, 4
 As of the deaf asp, that stoppeth its ear ;
 Which will not listen to the voice of charmers,
 Of him who is skilful in enchantments.
 O God, break their teeth in their mouths ; 6
 The fangs of the young lions beat out, O Jehovah.
 Let them melt away ; as water let them be dispersed. 7
 When he aimeth his arrows, may they be as if cut in pieces ;
 As a snail dissolveth, let every one of them pass away ; 8
 As an untimely birth, let them not see the sun.
 Before your pots can feel the thorns, 9
 Both fresh and burnt, let Him sweep them away with a tempest.
 The righteous will rejoice when he seeth vengeance ; 10
 He will wash his steps in the blood of the wicked man.

- ii And men will say, "Truly, the righteous man hath a reward;
Truly, there is a God who judgeth in the earth."

PSALM LIX.

To the Chief Musician. Al-tehesheth. A Golden Psalm of David,
when Saul sent, and they watched the house, to kill him.

- 1 DELIVER me from mine enemies, O God ;
Set me above those who rise up against me :
- 2 Deliver me from the workers of iniquity,
And save me from men of blood !
- 3 For lo, they lie in wait for my life,
Strong men assemble against me :
Not for my transgression, and not for my sin, O Jehovah ;
- 4 Without any fault in me they run together, and prepare
themselves :
Arise to help me, and see :
- 5 And do thou, O Jehovah, God of hosts, God of Israel,
Awake to visit all the nations :
Be not gracious to any wicked transgressors.
- 6 They return in the evening, they howl as a dog,
And they go round the city.
- 7 Lo, with their mouths they pour forth ;
Swords are in their lips ; they say,
" For who heareth ? "
- 8 But thou, Jehovah, wilt laugh at them,
Thou wilt have all the nations in derision.
- 9 My strength ! to thee I will sing :
For God is my stronghold.
- 10 The God whose loving-kindness will go before me ;
The God who will cause me to see mine enemies with
delight.
- 11 Slay them not, lest my people forget :
Scatter them by thine own forces,
And bring them down, O Lord, our shield.
- 12 For the words of their lips, for the sin of their mouth,
Let them, therefore, be taken in their pride ;
And for the cursing and for the lying which they speak.
- 13 Consume them in thy wrath, consume them, so that they
may not be ;
And that it may be known that a God ruleth in Jacob,
To the ends of the earth.

And let them return in the evening, 14
 Let them howl as a dog,
 And go about the city :
 Let them roam about for food ; 15
 If they be not satisfied, let them murmur.
 But I will sing of thy power ; 16
 And I will sing aloud in the morning of thy loving-kind-
 ness :
 For thou hast been my stronghold,
 And a refuge in the day of my distress.
 My strength ! to thee I will sing ; 17
 For God is my stronghold, the God of my loving-kindness.

PSALM LX.

To the Chief Musician upon Shushan-Oduth. A Golden Psalm
 of David, to teach, when he was contending with the Syrians
 of Mesopotamia, and with the Syrians of Zobah ; when Joab
 returned from smiting twelve thousand Edomites, in the Valley
 of Salt.

O God, thou hast cast us off ; thou hast beaten us down ; 1
 Thou hast been angry : O, return to us !
 Thou hast made the land to shake ; thou hast rent it : 2
 Heal thou its breaches, for it tottereth.
 Thou hast caused thy people to see hard things ; 3
 Thou hast made us drink the wine of reeling.
 Thou hast given flight to those who fear thee, 4
 So that they fled before the bow.
 That thy beloved ones may be delivered, 5
 Save with thy right-hand, and hear me.
 God hath spoken in his sanctuary. 6
 I will exult ; I will apportion Shechem,
 And the valley of Succoth I will measure out.
 Gilead shall be mine, and Manasseh shall be mine, 7
 And Ephraim shall be the strength of my head.
 Judah shall be my leader.
 Moab shall be my washing-basin ; 8
 Upon Edom I will cast my sandal ;
 Over Philistia I will shout aloud.
 Who will bring me to the fortified city ? 9
 Who will conduct me to Edom ?
 Wilt not thou, O God, who hadst cast us off ?
 And wilt not thou go forth, O God, with our hosts ? 10
 O grant us help from trouble ; 11

- Since vain is the aid of man.
 12 Through God we shall do valiantly ;
 For he himself will tread down our adversaries.

PSALM LXI.

To the Chief Musician upon Neginoth. A Psalm of David.

- 1 HEAR my cry, O God ;
 Attend unto my prayer.
 2 From the extremity of the land I call to thee,
 When my heart fainteth :
 Lead me to the rock which is too high for me.
 3 For thou hast been my refuge,
 A strong tower from the enemy.
 4 I will sojourn in thy tabernacle for ever ;
 I will trust in the covert of thy wings.
 5 For thou, O God, wilt hear my vows ;
 Thou wilt give me the inheritance of those who fear thy
 name.
 6 Thou wilt add days to the days of the king ;
 His years shall be as generation and generation.
 7 He shall sit for ever in the presence of God ;
 Kindness and truth shall preserve him.
 8 So will I sing of thy name for ever,
 That I may perform my vows every day.

PSALM LXII.

To the Chief Musician. To Jeduthun. A Psalm of David.

- 1 TRULY, my soul waiteth quietly for God ;
 From him is my salvation.
 2 Truly, he is my rock and my salvation,
 My high tower ; I shall not be greatly moved.
 3 How long will ye plot against a man,
 Whom ye would all of you break down,
 Like a bowing wall, like a tottering fence ?
 4 Truly, they consult to bring him down from his dignity ;
 They delight in falsehood ; with their mouth they bless,
 But inwardly they curse.
 5 Truly, my soul waiteth quietly for God ;
 For from him is my expectation.
 6 Truly, he is my rock and my salvation,
 My high tower ; I shall not be moved.
 7 With God are my salvation and my glory :

My strong rock, my refuge is in God.
Trust in him at all times, ye people ;
Pour out your heart before him :
God is our refuge. 8

Truly, men of low degree are vanity,
Men of high degree are falsehood.
In the balances they would go up ;
Together they are lighter than vanity.
Trust not in oppression, 9
And become not vain in rapine :
Set not your heart on wealth when it increases.
Once hath God spoken, 10
Twice have I heard this,
That God hath power.
And thou, O Jehovah, hast loving-kindness :
Surely thou wilt render to every one according to his deed. 11 12

PSALM LXIII.

A Psalm of David, when he was in the wilderness of Judah.

O God, thou art my God ; early will I seek thee : 1
My soul thirsteth for thee,
My flesh longeth for thee,
In a land dry and weary, where is no water ;
As in the sanctuary I have seen thee, 2
So again to see thy power and thy glory.
Because thy loving-kindness is better than life, 3
My lips shall praise thee.
Surely, I will bless thee while I live : 4
In thy name I will lift up my hands.
As with rich dainties my soul is satisfied,
While with joyful lips my mouth praiseth thee ; 5
When I call thee to mind on my bed,
When in the watches of the night I meditate on thee.
Because thou hast been my help ; 6
Therefore in the shadow of thy wings I will rejoice.
My soul followeth close after thee : 7
Thy right-hand upholdeth me ;
While they who seek to destroy my life, 8
Shall go to the lower parts of the earth :
They shall be delivered into the power of the sword ; 9
They shall be the portion of jackalls.
But the king shall rejoice in God ; 10 11

Every one who sweareth by him shall glory,
When the mouth of those who speak falsehood shall be
closed.

PSALM LXIV.

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.

- 1 HEAR, O God, my voice in my complaint ;
From the terror of the enemy preserve me.
- 2 Hide me from the council of the wicked,
From the tumult of the doers of iniquity,
- 3 Who sharpen their tongue as a sword,
Who aim their arrows, bitter words,
- 4 To shoot secretly the perfect :
Suddenly they shoot, and fear not.
- 5 They encourage themselves in an evil deed ;
They commune upon secretly laying snares ;
They say, " Who will see them ? "
- 6 They search for iniquities, they conceal their search,
They search the inmost part of a man, and the depth of
the heart.
- 7 But God will shoot an arrow at them ;
Sudden shall be their wounds.
- 8 And their own tongue shall cause them to fall upon
themselves :
Every one who seeth them shall flee away.
- 9 And all men shall be in awe,
And proclaim the work of God,
And understand his dealing.
- 10 The righteous man shall rejoice in Jehovah,
And shall trust in him,
And all the upright in heart shall glory.

PSALM LXV.

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David. An Ode.

- 1 FOR thee, O God, praise silently waiteth in Zion ;
And to thee shall the vow be performed.
- 2 O thou that hearest prayer !
To thee shall all flesh come.
- 3 Iniquities have been too mighty for us :
Our transgressions thou hast pardoned.
- 4 Happy *the people whom thou choosest and causest to
approach to thee* ;

Who dwell in thy courts.
 We shall be satisfied with the good things of thy house,
 of thy holy temple.
 Wonderfully, in righteousness hast thou answered us, 5
 O God of our salvation;
 The confidence of the uttermost parts of the earth,
 And of the distant seas:
 Who hath fixed the mountains by his strength, 6
 Being girded with might:
 Who stilleth the noise of the seas, 7
 The noise of their waves, and the tumult of the peoples.
 Even they who dwell in the uttermost parts are awed by
 thy wonders:
 Thou makest the going forth of the morning and the
 evening to sing for joy.
 Thou visitest the earth, and waterest it; 9
 Thou abundantly enrichest it:
 The river of God is full of water.
 Thou preparest their corn; for thus thou preparest it;
 Thou waterest copiously its furrows; 10
 Thou breakest down its ridges;
 Thou softeneſt it with showers;
 Its ſpringing forth thou bleſſeſt.
 Thou crownest the year with thy goodness,
 And thy paths diſtil fatneſſe. 11
 They diſtil it upon the paſtures of the wilderness;
 And the hills are girded with joy. 12
 The paſtures are clothed with flocks,
 And the valleys are covered with corn: 13
 They shout aloud, they also sing.

PSALM LXVI.

To the Chief Musician. An Ode. A Psalm.

SHOUT to God, all the earth: 1
 Sing the glory of his name; 2
 Make his praise glorious.
 Say to God, "How awful are thy deeds!
 Through the greatness of thy strength thine enemies
 submit to thee.
 Let all the earth bow down to thee,
 And let them sing unto thee; let them sing unto thy
 name." 4

- 5 Come, and see the works of God :
 Awful are his doings towards the sons of men.
- 6 He turned the sea into dry land ;
 They passed through the river on foot :
 Then we rejoiced in him.
- 7 He ruleth by his power for ever ;
 His eyes observe the nations :
 Let not the rebellious exalt themselves.
- 8 Bless our God, O ye peoples,
 And cause the voice of his praise to be heard ;
- 9 Who keepeth our souls in life,
 And suffereth not our feet to be moved.
- 10 Thou hast, indeed, proved us, O God ;
 Thou hast tried us as silver is tried.
- 11 Thou broughtest us into a net ;
 Thou placedst a heavy burden on our loins.
- 12 Thou causedst men to ride over our heads :
 We went through fire and through water ;
 But thou broughtest us out to a well-watered place.
- 13 I will go to thy house with burnt-offerings ;
 I will pay to thee my vows,
- 14 Which my lips uttered,
 And my mouth spake, when I was in trouble.
- 15 Burnt-offerings of fatted beasts I will offer to thee, with
 incense.
 I will offer rams ; bullocks with he-goats.
- 16 Come, hear, while I relate,
 All ye who fear God,
 What he hath done for my soul.
- 17 To him I cried with my mouth,
 And he was extolled by my tongue.
- 18 If I had regarded iniquity in my heart,
 Jehovah would not have heard me.
- 19 But, truly, God did hear me ;
 He attended to the voice of my prayer.
- 20 Blessed be God, who hath not turned away my prayer,
 Nor his kindness from me.

PSALM LXVII.

To the Chief Musician on Neginoth. A Psalm. An Ode.

- 1 MAY God be gracious unto us, and bless us !
 May he cause his face to shine upon us !

That thy ways may be known in the earth, 2
 Thy salvation among all nations.
 May the peoples praise thee, O God ; 3
 May all the peoples praise thee !
 May the nations rejoice, and sing aloud ! 4
 For thou judgest the peoples with equity,
 And thou rulest the peoples of the earth.
 May the peoples praise thee, O God ; 5
 May all the peoples praise thee !
 The land yieldeth its produce ; 6
 God, our God, will bless us.
 God will bless us ;
 And all the uttermost parts of the land will revere him. 7

PSALM LXVIII.

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David. An Ode.

LET God arise, and let his enemies be scattered ; 1
 And let those who hate him flee before him.
 As smoke is driven away, so drive thou them away ; 2
 As wax melteth before the fire,
 So let the wicked perish before God.
 But let the righteous rejoice ; let them exult before God, 3
 And exceedingly rejoice.
 Sing ye unto God, sing praises to his name : 4
 Raise a highway for him who rideth through the desert.
 His name is JAH, therefore exult before him.
 A father of orphans, and a judge of widows, 5
 Is God in his holy habitation.
 God settleth the solitary in a home ; 6
 He bringeth forth those who were bound into fruitful
 places,
 While the rebellious inhabit barren rocks.
 O God, when thou wentest forth before thy people, 7
 When thou marchedst through the wilderness,
 The earth shook, the heavens also dropped at the presence 8
 of God ;
 Sinai itself shook at the presence of God,
 The God of Israel.
 A plentiful rain thou didst send, O God, on thine inheri- 9
 tance ;
 When weary thou didst refresh it.
 Thy people dwelt in it ; 10

Thou preparedst in thy goodness, O God, for the afflicted.

11 The Lord gave command ;
The damsels who proclaimed glad tidings were a numerous host.

12 " Kings of armies have fled, they have fled ;
While she who tarried at home divided the spoil.
13 Ye truly were lying at rest between the sheepfolds,
As the wings of a dove covered with silver,
And her plumage of pale gold ;
14 When the Almighty was scattering kings,
When he was covering Salmon with snow."

15 A lofty mount is mount Bashan ;
A mount of eminences is mount Bashan.
16 Why look ye enviously, ye mounts of eminences,
At the mount on which God desireth to dwell ?
Truly, Jehovah will dwell on it for ever.

17 The chariots of God are twenty thousand,
Thousands of thousands ;
The Lord is among them as on Sinai.
18 Thou art going up to the place on high,
Thou art leading captive thy prisoners : ebel.
Thou hast received gifts from men, even from the r
 lious,
To dwell *here*, O Jah our God.

19 Blessed be the Lord daily !
Should any one oppress us, He is the God of our deliver
 ance.

20 God is the God of deliverance to us ;
And to Jehovah the Lord belong the issues from death.
21 Surely God will wound the head of his enemies ;
The hairy crown of him who walketh in his trespasses.

22 The Lord said, " From Bashan I will bring *them* again ;
I will bring them again from the depths of the sea,
23 That thou mayest dip thy feet in blood ;
That the tongue of thy dogs may have its portion from
thine enemies."

24 Thy goings are seen, O God ;
The goings of my God, my King, to his sanctuary.
25 The singers go before ;
The players on the lyre follow ;
In the midst are damsels striking timbrels.
26 " Bless ye God in the congregations,
The Lord, *ye who are* of the fountain of Israel."

- There Benjamin, *though* small, is their ruler ; 27
 The princes of Judah their rock ;
 The princes of Zebulun, the princes of Naphtali.
 Command, O God, thy strength ; 28
 Confirm, O God, what thou hast done for us.
 On account of thy temple at Jerusalem, 29
 May kings bring presents to thee.
 Rebuke the wild beasts of the reeds, 30
 The assembly of bulls, with the calves of the peoples,
 Bowing down with pieces of silver :
 Scatter the peoples that delight in war.
 Ambassadors shall come from Egypt ; 31
 Ethiopia shall speedily stretch forth her hands to God.
 Ye kingdoms of the earth, sing to God ; 32
 Sing praises to the Lord ;
 To him who rideth in the heavens, the ancient heavens : 33
 Lo, he uttereth his voice, a strong voice.
 Ascribe ye strength to God : 34
 Over Israel is his majesty,
 And his strength is in the clouds.
 Terrible is God from his sanctuary, 35
 The God of Israel :
 He giveth strength and power to his people.
 Blessed be God !

PSALM LXIX.

To the Chief Musician, upon the Hexachord. A Psalm of David.

- SAVE me, O God ; 1
 For the waters have reached to *my* life.
 I am sinking in deep mire, 2
 Where there is no standing ;
 I am come into deep waters,
 And the flood overfloweth me.
 I am weary by my calling ; my throat is parched : 3
 Mine eyes fail from waiting for my God.
 More than the hairs of my head, 4
 Are they who hate me without cause.
 Mighty are they who would destroy me, mine enemies
 wrongfully :
 What I took not away, I restore.
 O God, thou knowest my folly ; 5
 And my trespasses are not hidden from thee.

- 6 Let not them be ashamed on my account, who wait for thee,
 O Lord Jehovah of Hosts :
 Let not them be confounded on my account, who seek thee,
 O God of Israel ;
- 7 Since, for thy sake, I have borne reproach ;
 Shame hath covered my face :
- 8 I have been a stranger to my brethren,
 And an alien to the sons of my mother :
- 9 For the zeal of thy house hath consumed me,
 And the reproaches of them that reproached thee, have fallen upon me.
- 10 When I weep and fast,
 That is a reproach to me :
- 11 When for my clothing I put on sackcloth,
 Then I am a proverb to them.
- 12 They who sit in the gate talk against me ;
 And I am the song of the drinkers of wine.
- 13 But as for me, my prayer is unto thee, O Jehovah ;
Let it be in an acceptable time, O God.
 In thy great loving-kindness answer me,
 In the truth of thy salvation.
- 14 Deliver me from out of the mire, and let me not sink ;
 Let me be delivered from them that hate me, and from the deep waters.
- 15 Let not the flood of waters overflow me,
 And let not the deep swallow me up,
 Nor the pit close its mouth upon me.
- 16 Answer me, O Jehovah, for thy loving-kindness is good ;
 According to the greatness of thy tender mercies turn towards me ;
- 17 And hide not thy face from thy servant :
 For I am in trouble ; O answer me speedily.
- 18 Draw nigh unto my soul, redeem it ;
 Because of mine enemies, ransom me.
- 19 Thou knowest my reproach, and my shame, and my confusion ;
 Before thee are all my adversaries.
- 20 Reproach breaketh my heart, and I am enfeebled,
 And I look for some one to pity, but there is none ;
 And for comforters, but I find them not.
- 21 And they give me for my food, hemlock ;
 And in my thirst they give me sour wine.

- May their table before them be a snare, 22
 And their peace-offerings a net !
 May their eyes be darkened, that they may not see, 23
 And cause their loins continually to shake !
 Pour out upon them thine indignation, 24
 And let the heat of thine anger overtake them !
 May their habitation be desolate ; 25
 May there be no dweller in their tents !
 For him whom thou hast smitten they persecute ; 26
 And add to the grief of him whom thou hast wounded.] 27
 Add iniquity to their iniquity, 27
 And let them not come into thy justification.
 May they be blotted out of the book of the living, 28
 And with the righteous may they not be written !
 But I am poor and afflicted : 29
 Let thy salvation, O God, set me on high.
 I will praise the name of God in a song, 30
 And I will magnify him with thanksgiving.
 And this shall be more pleasing to Jehovah, 31
 Than an ox or a bullock with horns and hoofs.
 Let the poor see *this*, and let those who seek God, re- 32
 joice ;
 And let your heart live.
 For Jehovah heareth the needy, 33
 And despiseth not his prisoners.
 Let the heavens and the earth praise him, 34
 The seas and everything that moveth therein.
 For God will save Zion, 35
 And build again the cities of Judah,
 That they may dwell there and possess it ;
 And that the seed of his servants may inherit it, 36
 And they who love his name may dwell therein.

PSALM LXX.

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David, to bring to remembrance.

- Be pleased*, O God, to deliver me ; 1
 O Jehovah, hasten to my aid.
 May they be ashamed and disgraced, who seek my life ; 2
 May they be driven back and confounded, who desire my hurt.
 May they be turned back on account of their shame, 3

- Who say to me, Aha ! sha !
 4 May all those who seek thee be glad and rejoice in thee,
 And let them who love thy salvation say continually,
 “ May Jehovah be magnified.”
 Since I am afflicted and needy,
 5 O God, hasten to me.
 Thou art my helper and deliverer;
 O Jehovah, delay not.

PSALM LXXI.

- 1 IN thee, O Jehovah, I trust ;
 Never let me be put to shame.
 2 In thy righteousness deliver me, and rescue me ;
 Incline to me thine ear, and save me.
 3 Be to me a rock of strength,
 To which I may continually resort :
 Thou hast given commandment to save me ;
 For thou art my rock and my fortress.
 4 O God, deliver me from the power of the wicked,
 From the hand of the unrighteous, and the cruel.
 5 For thou hast been my hope, O Lord Jehovah ;
 My confidence from my youth.
 6 On thee I have rested from the womb ;
 From the bowels of my mother thou didst bring me forth :
 My praise shall be continually of thee.
 7 I have been as a wonder to many ;
 But thou hast been my strong refuge.
 8 My mouth shall be filled with thy praise,
 With thy glory all the day.
 9 Cast me not off in the time of old age ;
 Forsake me not when my strength faileth.
 10 For mine enemies speak against me,
 And they who are watching for my life consult together,
 11 Saying, “ God hath forsaken him ;
 Pursue and take him, for there is no one to deliver.”
 12 O God, be not far from me ;
 O my God, hasten to my help.
 13 May they be ashamed and confounded who are my adversaries ;
 May they be covered with disgrace and confusion who
 seek my hurt.

But I will hope continually, 14
 And I will praise thee more and more.
 My mouth shall shew forth thy righteousness, 15
 Thy salvation all the day ;
 Though I know not their number.
 I will set forth thy might, O Lord Jehovah : 16
 I will make mention of thy righteousness, of thine alone.
 O God, thou hast taught me from my youth ; 17
 And hitherto I have declared thy wondrous works.
 And even till I am old and grey headed, 18
 O God, forsake me not ;
 While I declare thy power to *this* generation,
 Thy might to every one that is to come.
 For thy righteousness is very high, O God, 19
 Who hast done great things.
 O God, who is like unto thee,
 Who hast made me to see many and grievous troubles ? 20
 Thou wilt revive me,
 And from the depths of the earth thou wilt bring me up
 again.
 Thou wilt increase my greatness, 21
 And wilt again comfort me.
 Then I will praise thee on the lute, *even* thy truth, O my 22
 God :
 I will sing to thee on the harp, O thou Holy One of Israel.
 My lips shall loudly rejoice when I sing to thee, 23
 And my soul, which thou hast redeemed.
 My tongue also shall talk of thy righteousness all the day : 24
 For ashamed, for confounded are they who seek my hurt.

PSALM LXXII.

For Solomon.

O God, give thy judgments to the king, 1
 And thy righteousness to the son of the king.
 Then will he rule thy people with righteousness, 2
 And thine oppressed ones with equity.
 The mountains will announce prosperity to the people, 3
 And the hills, on account of righteousness.
 He will judge the oppressed of the people ; 4
 He will save the children of the needy,
 But break in pieces the oppressor.

- 5 They will revere thee while the sun endureth,
And the moon, from generation to generation.
- 6 He shall be as rain that cometh down upon the mown
grass ;
As copious showers that moisten the earth.
- 7 In his days righteousness shall flourish,
And abundant prosperity, till there be no moon.
- 8 And he shall rule from sea to sea,
And from the river to the boundaries of the land.
- 9 Before him, they who dwell in the desert shall bow down ;
And his enemies shall lick the dust.
- 10 The kings of Tarshish and of the regions beyond the
sea shall bring presents ;
The kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts :
- 11 And all kings shall bow down to him ;
All nations shall serve him.
- 12 For he will deliver the needy when he crieth,
And the oppressed, when he hath no one to help him.
- 13 He will pity the poor and the needy,
And the lives of the needy he will save.
- 14 From oppression and violence he will redeem their life,
And their blood will be precious in his sight.
- 15 And he shall live, and there shall be given to him of the
gold of Sheba ;
And prayer shall be made for him continually :
Every day he shall be blessed.
- 16 There shall be abundance of corn in the land ;
On the top of the mountains, its fruit shall wave like Le-
banon ;
And they shall spring forth from the city as the grass of
the earth.
- 17 His name shall endure for ever :
While the sun endureth, his name shall be continued ;
And they shall bless each other by him :
All nations shall call him happy.
- 18 Blessed be Jehovah God, the God of Israel,
Who only doeth wonderful things.
- 19 And blessed be his glorious name for ever :
And may the whole earth be filled with his glory. Amen
and Amen.
- 20 The prayers of David, the son of Jeuse, are ended.

PSALM LXXIII.

A Psalm of Asaph.

TRULY God is good to Israel,	1
To those who are pure in heart.	
But as for me, my feet had almost turned aside,	2
My steps had nearly slipped :	
For I was jealous of the foolish,	3
<i>When I saw the prosperity of the wicked.</i>	
For they have no distress until their death ;	4
But their strength is firm.	
They are not in the trouble of <i>mortal</i> men,	5
And like men they are not smitten.	
Therefore, pride encircleth them as a neck-chain ;	6
Violence covereth them as a robe.	
Their eyes stand out with fatness ;	7
The thoughts of their heart transgress.	
They scoff, and speak wickedly ;	8
Haughtily they speak calumny.	
They set their mouth against the heavens,	9
And their tongue walketh through the earth.	
Therefore His people turn thither ;	10
And abundant water they drain out for themselves.	
And they say, " How should God know,	11
And how should there be knowledge in the Most High ? "	
Lo, these are wicked men,	12
Yet they are ever prosperous ; they increase in wealth.	
Surely in vain have I cleansed my heart,	13
And washed my hands in innocence ;	
Since I am smitten every day,	14
And chastened every morning.	
Should I say, " I will speak as they,"	15
So, I should transgress against the generation of thy children.	
Yet when I studied to know this,	16
It was a labour in mine eyes,	
Until I entered into the sanctuary of God,	17
And discerned their end.	
Surely, thou settest them in slippery places :	18
Thou causest them to fall into destruction.	
How, in a moment, do they become desolate !	19
<i>How</i> are they utterly consumed, on a sudden,	

- 20 As the dream of one who awaketh !
When thou rousest thyself, O Lord, thou wilt despise their
image.
- 21 When my heart was grieved,
And my reins pierced,
- 22 Then was I foolish and ignorant :
A brute was I before thee.
- 23 But I am continually with thee ;
Thou holdest me by thy right-hand.
- 24 By thy counsel thou dost guide me,
And afterwards thou wilt advance me to honour.
- 25 Whom have I in heaven ?
And in no one on the earth do I delight, beside thee.
- 26 My flesh and my heart fail ;
God is the strength of my heart and my portion for
ever.
- 27 For, lo, they who are far from thee perish ;
Thou cuttest off all who go astray from thee.
- 28 But as for me, it is good for me to be nigh to God :
I place in the Lord Jehovah my trust,
That I shall declare all thy doings.

PSALM LXXIV.

A Poem of Asaph.

- 1 Why, O God, hast thou cast us off for ever ?
Why doth thine anger smoke against the sheep of thy
pasture ?
- 2 Remember thy congregation which thou didst purchase of
old ;
Which thou redeemedst to be the portion of thine inheri-
tance ;
This Mount Zion, in which thou dwellest.
- 3 Hasten thy steps to the perpetual desolations ;
The enemy hath destroyed everything in the sanctuary.
- 4 Thine adversaries roar in the midst of thy place of assem-
bly ;
They have set up their own ensigns as signs.
- 5 They have appeared like one that bringeth down
On entangled trees *his* axe.
- 6 So now the whole carved work
They have beaten down with hatchets and hammers :
- 7 They have cast fire into thy sanctuary ;

- They have profaned to the ground the dwelling of thy name. 8
 They say in their heart, " Let us destroy them at once : "
 They have burnt all the assembling places of God in the land.
 Our own signs we see not : 9
 There is no longer a prophet,
 Neither is there amongst us one who knoweth how long. 10
 How long, O God, shall the adversary reproach ?
 Shall the enemy despise thy name for ever ? .
 Why withdrawest thou thy hand, even thy right-hand ? 11
 From thy bosom bring it forth, and destroy.
 Yet God hath been my king from of old, 12
 Working great salvation in the earth.
 Thou dividedst the sea by thy strength ; 13
 Thou brakest the heads of sea-monsters by the waters.
 Thou crushedst the head of the crocodile, 14
 And gavest him for food to the people of the deserts.
 Thou clavest the fountain and the torrent ; 15
 Thou driedst up overflowing streams.
 Thine is the day, thine also is the night : 16
 Thou preparedst the light and the sun.
 Thou hast fixed all the boundaries of the earth : 17
 Summer and winter thou hast formed.
 Remember this, an enemy hath reproached *thee*, O Jeho- 18
 vah,
 And a foolish people hath despised thy name.
 Give not the life of thy turtle-dove to the ravening bird : 19
 Forget not the life of the afflicted for ever.
 Have regard to *thy* covenant : for filled 20
 Are the dark places of the land with habitations of violence.
 Let not the oppressed return ashamed : 21
 Let the afflicted and the needy praise thy name.
 Arise, O God, plead thine own cause : 22
 Remember thy reproach from the foolish every day.
 Forget not the voice of thine adversaries ; 23
 The tumult of those who rise up against thee, ascending
 continually.

PSALM LXXV.

To the Chief Musician. Al-tesheheth. A Psalm of Asaph.
 An Ode.

We give thanks to thee, O God,
 We give thanks since thy name is near : 1

- Thy wonderful works have been told *to us.*
 2 When I shall have received *thy* promise,
 I will judge uprightly.
 3 The land and all its inhabitants have been dissolved :
 I will establish its pillars.
 4 I will say to the foolish, "Be not foolish,"
 And to the wicked, "Exalt not the horn :
 5 Exalt not your horn on high :
 Speak not with a stiff neck.
 6 For not from the east, nor from the west,
 Nor from the south, cometh exaltation,
 7 But God is the judge ;
 One he humbleth, and another he exalteth."
 8 For the cup is in the hand of Jehovah, and the wine is
 red ;
 It is full of mixed wine, which he poureth thence ;
 Its very dregs they shall drain out ;
 All the wicked of the land shall drink them.
 9 But I will proclaim for ever ;
 I will sing praises to the God of Jacob :
 10 And all the horns of the wicked I will cut off ;
 The horns of the righteous shall be exalted.

PSALM LXXVI.

To the Chief Musician on Neginoth. A Psalm of Asaph.
 An Ode.

- 1 God is known in Judah ;
 In Israel his name is great :
 2 And in Salem is his tabernacle,
 And his habitation in Zion.
 3 There hath he broken the winged arrows of the bow,
 The shield, and the sword, and the battle.
 4 More glorious and excellent art Thou
 Than the mountains of rapine.
 5 The stout-hearted have been spoiled,
 They have slept their sleep ;
 And none of the men of might have found their hands.
 6 At thy rebuke, O God of Jacob,
 Both the chariot and the horse have been cast into a deep
 sleep.
 7 Thou, even thou, art terrible ;
 And who can stand before thee, when thou art angry ?

From the heavens thou didst cause thy sentence to be heard ; 8
 The earth was afraid, and was still,
 When God rose up to give sentence, 9
 To save all the oppressed of the land.
 Surely, the wrath of man shall praise thee ; 10
 The remainder of wrath thou wilt restrain.
 ¶ Vow, and pay *your vows* to Jehovah, your God ; 11
 All ye who are around him, bring presents to him who is
 to be feared.
 He cutteth off the spirit of princes : 12
 Terrible is he to the kings of the earth.

PSALM LXXVII.

To the Chief Musician. To Jeduthun. A Psalm of Asaph.

My cry is to God, and I cry aloud ; 1
 My cry is to God that he would hear me.
 In the day of my distress, I seek Jehovah ; 2
 In the night my hand is spread out, and is not drawn
 back ;
 My soul refuseth to be comforted.
 I remember God, and am troubled ; 3
 I meditate, and my spirit fainteth.
 Thou holdest the wakings of mine eyes ; 4
 I am troubled, so that I cannot speak.
 I think upon the days of former times,
 The years of past ages.
 I remember my song in the night ; 6
 I meditate in my heart,
 And my spirit searcheth diligently.
 Will Jehovah cast off for ever, 7
 And will he be favourable no more ?
 Is his loving-kindness withdrawn for ever ?
 Will his promise fail for all generations ?
 Hath God forgotten to be gracious ? 9
 Hath he in anger cut off his tender mercies ?
 Then I said, "This is my grief, 10
 The change of the right-hand of the Most High."
 Let me remember the deeds of Jehovah ; 11
 Yea, let me remember thy wonders of former times.
 Let me meditate on all thy doings,
 And talk of all thy deeds.
 Thy way, O God, is holy : 13

- Who so great a God as *our* God ?
 14 Thou art the God that doeth wonders :
 Among the peoples thou hast made known thy power.
 15 With thine arm thou didst redeem thine own people,
 The sons of Jacob and Joseph.
 16 The waters saw thee, O God,
 The waters saw thee ; they trembled ;
 Even the depths were troubled.
 17 The clouds poured out water ;
 The skies uttered a sound ;
 Thine arrows also went abroad.
 18 The voice of thy thunder was in the heaven ;
 Lightnings enlightened the world :
 The earth trembled and shook.
 19 Thy way was in the sea,
 And thy paths in the great waters,
 And thy footsteps were not known.
 20 Thou leddest thy people like a flock,
 By the hand of Moses and Aaron.

PSALM LXXVIII.

A Psalm of Asaph.

- 1 LISTEN, O my people, to my law :
 Incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
 2 I will open my mouth in a weighty discourse,
 I will utter truths of deep import from former times.
 3 What we have heard and known,
 And *what* our fathers have told us,
 4 We will not hide from their children ;
 Relating to the generation that followeth,
 The praises of Jehovah, and his might,
 And the wonderful works which he hath done.
 5 For he established a testimony in Jacob,
 And appointed a law in Israel,
 Which he charged our fathers
 To make known to their children,
 6 That the following generation might know them ;
 That the children which should be born might arise,
 And declare them to their children ;
 7 That they might place their trust in God,
 And not forget the works of God ;
 But keep his commandments ;

- And not be like their fathers, 8
 A stubborn and rebellious generation,
 A generation that set not their heart aright,
 And whose spirit was not faithful to God.
- The children of Ephraim, armed with the bow, 9
 Turned back in the day of battle.
 They kept not the covenant of God, 10
 But refused to walk in his law ;
 And they forgot his works, 11
 And his wonders which he had shown to them.
- In the sight of their fathers, he had done wonders, 12
 In the land of Egypt, in the plain of Zoan.
 He divided the sea, and caused them to pass through, 13
 And made the waters to stand up as a heap.
 And he led them by a cloud in the day, 14
 And all the night by the light of fire.
 He clave rocks in the desert, 15
 And gave them to drink as from the great deep.
 And he brought streams from the flinty rock, 16
 And caused waters to run down like rivers.
 Yet still they continued to sin against him, 17
 To provoke the Most High in the desert.
 And they tried God in their heart, 18
 By asking food for their desire.
 They even spake against God ; they said, 19
 “Can God spread a table in the desert ?”
 He smote the rock, indeed, 20
 And waters burst forth, and torrents overflowed ;
 Can he also give bread ?
 Can he provide flesh for his people ?”
- Therefore Jehovah heard, and was exceedingly wroth ; 21
 So a fire was kindled against Jacob,
 And anger also rose up against Israel ;
 Because they believed not in God, 22
 And trusted not in his salvation ;
 Though he had given command to the clouds above, 23
 And the doors of the heavens he had opened,
 And had rained down upon them manna for food, 24
 And the corn of the heavens he had given them.
 The food of the Mighty Ones men had eaten ; 25
 He had sent them meat to fulness.
- He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens ; 26
 And by his power brought on the south wind.

- 27 And he rained down upon them flesh as dust,
 And winged fowls as the sand of the sea ;
 28 And he caused them to alight in the midst of their camp,
 All around their dwellings.
 29 So they ate, and were greatly filled ;
 For that which they had desired he brought to them.
 30 They were not estranged from their longing,
 Their food was still in their mouths,
 31 When the anger of God came upon them,
 And slew the stoutest of them,
 And bowed down the choice men of Israel.
 32 For all this they sinned still,
 And trusted not his wonderful works.
 33 Therefore he consumed their days in vanity,
 And their years in trouble.
 34 When he slew them, then they sought him,
 And they returned, and earnestly sought after God.
 35 And they remembered that God was their rock,
 And God Most High their Redeemer.
 36 But they flattered him with their mouths,
 And with their tongues they lied to him :
 37 For their heart was not firm with him,
 Nor were they true to his covenant.
 38 But he, being full of compassion, forgave their iniquity,
 And destroyed them not ;
 But often turned away his anger,
 And did not stir up all his wrath.
 39 For he remembered that they were flesh ;
 A breath passing away, that returneth not.
 40 How often did they provoke him in the desert,
How often did they grieve him in the wilderness !
 41 Again and again they tried God,
 And angered the Holy One of Israel.
 42 They remembered not his hand,
 The day in which he redeemed them from the adversary ;
 43 When he wrought his signs in Egypt,
 And his wonders in the plain of Zoan ;
 44 When he turned their rivers into blood ;
 And their streams, so that they could not drink ;
 45 When he sent among them the beetle, which devoured
 them ;
 And frogs, which destroyed them ;
 46 And gave to the chesil-locust their fruits,

- And their labour to the arba-locust ; 47
When he destroyed their vines with hail,
 And their sycamores with frost ; 48
When he gave up their cattle to the hail,
 And their flocks to the lightning ; 49
When he sent upon them the heat of his anger,
 Wrath, and indignation, and distress,
 By the mission of evil angels ;
When he levelled a way for his anger, 50
 Spared not even themselves from death ;
 But gave up their life to the pestilence,
 And smote all the first-born in Egypt,
 The beginning of their strength in the tents of Ham ; 51
 But led forth his own people as sheep, 52
 And guided them as a flock in the wilderness ;
 And led them on safely, so that they had no cause for dread,
 While the sea overwhelmed their enemies ;
 And he brought them to his own holy boundary, 54
 To this mountain, which his own right-hand had purchased ;
 And drove out nations before them, 55
 And allotted to them their inheritance by line,
 And made the tribes of Israel to dwell in their tents.
 Yet they tried and provoked God Most High, 56
 And observed not his testimonies ;
 But turned back, and acted treacherously like their fathers : 57
 They turned aside like a slackened bow ;
 For they provoked him to anger by their high places, 58
 And moved him to jealousy by their graven images.
 God heard, and was wroth, 59
 And greatly abhorred Israel ;
 And he forsook the tabernacle of Shiloh, 60
 The tent in which he had dwelt with man ;
 And he delivered his strength to captivity, 61
 And his beauty into the hand of the adversary ;
 And he gave up his people to the sword ; 62
 And with his inheritance he was wroth.
 Fire consumed their young men, 63
 And their virgins lamented not.
 Their priests fell by the sword, 64
 And their widows wept not.
 Then Jehovah awoke, as from sleep, 65

- As a mighty man shouting from wine :
 66 And he smote his enemies behind ;
 Everlasting reproach he inflicted upon them.
 67 Yet he abhorred the tent of Joseph,
 And the tribe of Ephraim he chose not ;
 68 But he chose the tribe of Judah,
 Mount Zion, which he loved.
 69 And he built high his sanctuary,
 As the earth which he hath established for ever.
 70 And he chose David his servant,
 And took him from the sheep-folds :
 71 From following the suckling-ewes he brought him,
 To feed Jacob his people,
 And Israel his inheritance.
 72 So he fed them in the uprightness of his heart ;
 And by the discretion of his hands he guided them.

PSALM LXXIX.

A Psalm of Asaph.

- 1 O God, the nations have come into thine inheritance,
 They have polluted thy holy temple ;
 They have laid Jerusalem in heaps.
 2 They have given the dead bodies of thy servants
 For food to the birds of the heavens ;
 The flesh of thy saints to the beasts of the earth.
 3 They have poured forth their blood like water, around Jeru-
 salem,
 And there was no one to bury *them*.
 4 We are a reproach to our neighbours,
 A scorn and derision to those around us.
 5 How long, O Jehovah, wilt thou be angry ? For ever ?
How long shall thy jealousy burn like fire ?
 6 Pour out thy wrath upon the nations that know thee not,
 And upon the kingdoms that call not upon thy name :
 7 For they have consumed Jacob,
 And his dwelling-place they have laid waste.
 8 Remember not against us former iniquities :
 Speedily let thy tender mercies come to our aid ;
 For we are brought exceedingly low.
 9 Help us, O God of our salvation,
 For the glory of thy name :
 And deliver us and pardon our sins,

For the sake of thy name.
Why should the nations say,
“Where is their God?” 10
Let the avenging of the blood of thy servants which hath
been shed
Be known among the nations in our sight.
Let the groaning of the prisoner come before thee:
According to the greatness of thine arm, 11
Preserve those who are condemned to die.
And repay to our neighbours seven-fold into their bosom, 12
The reproach with which they have reproached thee, O
Lord!
Then we, thy people, and the sheep of thy pasture,
Will give thanks to thee for ever; 13
To all generations we will shew forth thy praise.

PSALM LXXX.

To the Chief Musician upon Shoshanim-Oduth. A Psalm
of Asaph.

O SHEPHERD of Israel, listen ;
Thou who leadest Joseph like a flock ;
Thou who dwellest between the cherubim, shine forth.
Before Ephraim, and Benjamin, and Manasseh,
Arouse thy might,
And come to save us.
O God of Hosts restore us :
Cause thy face to shine, that we may be saved.

Jehovah, God of Hosts !
How long wilt thou be angry at the prayer of thy people ?
Thou feedest them with the bread of tears,
And givest them tears to drink in abundance.
Thou makest us an object of strife to our neighbours ;
And our enemies laugh us to scorn.
O God of Hosts restore us ;
And cause thy face to shine, that we may be saved.

Thou broughtest a vine from Egypt ;
Thou didst cast out the nations, and didst plant it.
Thou didst clear a place for it ; and it spread its roots,
And filled the land.
The mountains were covered with its shade.

- And its boughs were like the cedars of God.
 11 It sent forth its fruit-bearing branches to the sea,
 And to the river its suckers.
 12 Why hast thou broken down its fences ;
 So that all who pass by the way pluck its fruit ?
 13 The boar from the forest rooteth it up ;
 And the wild beast of the field feedeth upon it.
 14 Return, now, O God of Hosts,
 Look down from heaven, and see,
 15 And take charge of this vine ;
 And of the plant which thy right-hand hath planted ;
 And of the son whom thou madest strong for thyself.
 16 It is burned with fire : it is cut down.
 At the rebuke of thy face, may they perish !
 17 Let thy hand be upon the man of thy right-hand,
 Upon the son of man whom thou madest strong for thyself.
 18 Then we will not turn back from thee :
 Revive us, and we will call upon thy name.
 19 Jehovah God of Hosts, restore us :
 Cause thy face to shine, that we may be saved.

PSALM LXXXI.

To the Chief Musician upon the Gittith. A Psalm of Asaph.

- 1 SING aloud to God, our strength :
 Make a joyful noise to the God of Jacob.
 2 Raise the psalm, and bring the timbrel,
 The sweet-sounding harp with the psaltery.
 3 Blow the trumpet at the new moon ;
 At the full moon, on our festival-days.
 4 For this is a statute for Israel,
 An ordinance of the God of Jacob.
 5 He ordained it a testimony in Joseph,
 When he came out of the land of Egypt.
 “ I heard a language which I knew not.
 6 I relieved his shoulder from the burden ;
 His hands were delivered from the basket.
 7 In trouble thou calledst, and I delivered thee ;
 I answered thee in the secret place of thunder ;
 I proved thee at the waters of Meribah.
 8 ‘ Hear, O my people, while I deliver my testimonies to thee ;
 Oh that thou wouldest hear me, O Israel !

Let there be no strange God with thee ; 9
 Neither worship thou any foreign God.
 I, Jehovah, will be thy God, 10
 Who brought thee out of the land of Egypt :
 Open wide thy mouth, and I will fill it.
 But my people would not hear my voice, 11
 And Israel was unwilling to obey me.
 So I gave them up to the obstinaey of their heart ; 12
 And they walked according to their own counsels.
 Oh that my people had hearkened unto me, 13
 That Israel had walked in my ways !
 Soon would I have humbled their enemies, 14
 And against their adversaries I would have turned my hand.
 The haters of Jehovah should have submitted to him ; 15
 But their time should have endured for ever.
 He would have fed him with the finest wheat ; 16
 And with honey from the rock I would have satisfied thee.”

PSALM LXXXII.

A Psalm of Asaph.

God standeth in the assembly of God : 1
 In the midst of the gods he judgeth.
 “ How long will ye judge unjustly, 2
 And respect the persons of the wicked ?
 Defend the weak and the orphan ; 3
 Do justice to the afflicted and the poor.
 Deliver the weak and the needy ; 4
 From the hand of the wicked rescue them.
 They know not, and they understand not ; 5
 In darkness they walk about :
 All the foundations of the land totter.
 I said, Ye are gods, 6
 And sons of the Most High, all of you ;
 Yet like men ye shall die, 7
 And as one of the princes ye shall fall.”
 Arise, O God, judge thou the land ; 8
 For thou posseest all the nations.

PSALM LXXXIII.

An Ode. A Psalm of Asaph.

O God, be thou not dumb ; 9
 Be not silent, neither be thou still, O God.

- 2 For, lo, thine enemies make a tumult;
 And they who hate thee lift up the head.
 3 Against thy people they craftily take counsel,
 And consult together against those whom thou protectest.
 4 They say, "Come, and let us cut them off from being a
 nation;
 And let not the name of Israel be remembered any more."
 5 For they consult earnestly together;
 Against thee they make a covenant;
 6 The tents of Edom, and the Ishmaelites,
 Of Moab, and the Hagarenes,
 7 Gebal, and Ammon, and Amalek,
 The Philistines, with the inhabitants of Tyre;
 8 The Assyrians also are joined with them;
 They are a support to the sons of Lot.
 9 Do to them as to the Midianites;
 As to Sisera, as to Jabin,
 At the torrent Kishon;
 10 Who were destroyed at Endor;
 Who were dung for the ground.
 11 Make them and their nobles as Oreb and Zeeb,
 And as Zeba and Zalmunna, all their princes
 12 Who say, "Let us take possession
 Of the habitation of God."
 13 O my God, make them as thistle-down;
 As stubble before the wind.
 14 As fire consumeth the forest,
 And as flame setteth the mountains on fire,
 15 So pursue them with thy tempest,
 And with thy whirlwind trouble them.
 16 Fill their faces with shame,
 That they may seek thy name, O Jehovah.
 17 Let them be ashamed and troubled for ever;
 Let them be disgraced, and perish;
 18 That it may be known that thou, whose name only is Je-
 hovah,
 Art Most High over all the earth.

PSALM LXXXIV.

To the Chief Musician upon the Gittith. A Psalm by the
 Sons of Korah.

- 1 How lovely are thy dwelling-places,
 O Jehovah of Hosts!

My soul longeth, and even fainteth, 2
 For the courts of Jehovah :
 My heart and my flesh cry aloud 3
 To the living God.
 Even the sparrow findeth a house, 3
 And the swallow a nest for herself,
 Where she may place her young ; 4
 Thine altars, O Jehovah of Hosts,
 My King and my God.
 Happy are they who dwell in thy house ! 4
 They are ever praising thee.
 Happy the man whose strength thou art, 5
 In whose heart are the highways to *Jerusalem*.
 Passing through the valley of Baca, 6
 They drink from a fountain ;
 The latter rain also adorneth it with blessings.
 They go from strength to strength, 7
 Till every one appeareth before God in Zion.
 Jehovah God of Hosts, hear my prayer : 8
 Listen, O God of Jacob.
 Behold our shield, O God, 9
 And look upon the face of thine Anointed.
 For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. 10
 I would choose to stand on the threshold of the house of
 my God,
 Rather than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.
 For a sun and a shield is Jehovah God : 11
 Jehovah giveth favour and glory ;
 He refuseth not good to those who walk uprightly.
 O Jehovah of Hosts, 12
 Happy is the man who trusteth in thee !

PSALM LXXXV.

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm by the Sons of Korah.

THOU wast favourable, O Jehovah, to thy land ; 1
 Thou broughtest back the captives of Jacob.
 Thou forgavest the iniquity of thy people ; 2
 Thou coveredst all their sin.
 Thou withdrewst all thy wrath ; 3
 Thou turnedst away from the heat of thine anger.
 Turn to us, O God of our salvation, 4
 And cause thine indignation towards us to cease.

- 5 Wilt thou for ever be wroth with us?
 Wilt thou prolong thine anger to all generations?
- 6 Wilt thou not again revive us,
 That thy people may rejoice in thee?
- 7 Shew us, O Jehovah, thy loving-kindness,
 And grant us thy salvation.
- 8 I will hear what the God Jehovah will speak:
 Surely he will speak prosperity to his people, and to his
 saints,
 If they return not to folly.
- 9 Truly, his salvation is nigh to them who fear him,
 That glory may dwell in our land.
- 10 Kindness and truth will meet together;
 Righteousness and prosperity will kiss each other.
- 11 Truth will spring forth from the earth;
 And righteousness will look down from the heavens.
- 12 Jehovah will surely give us what is good;
 And our land will yield its produce.
- 13 Righteousness will go before him,
 And tread firmly on the way.

PSALM LXXXVI.

A Prayer of David.

- 1 INCLINE, O Jehovah, thine ear; answer me;
 For I am afflicted and needy.
- 2 Preserve my life, for I am holy:
 O thou, my God, save thy servant, who trusteth in thee!
- 3 Be gracious to me, O Jehovah;
 For to thee I cry every day.
- 4 Make the soul of thy servant to rejoice;
 For to thee, O Jehovah, I lift up my soul.
- 5 For thou, O Jehovah, art good and ready to forgive,
 And abundant in kindness to all who call upon thee.
- 6 Listen, O Jehovah, to my prayer;
 And attend to the voice of my supplications.
- 7 In the day of my trouble I call upon thee;
 For thou answerest me.
- 8 There is none like thee among the Gods, O Jehovah;
 And no works are like thy works.
- 9 All nations which thou hast made shall come,
 And shall bow down before thee, O Jehovah,

And glorify thy name ;
 For thou art great, and doest wondrous things ; 10
 Thou art God alone.
 Teach me, O Jehovah, thy way ;
 I will walk in thy truth. 11
 My whole heart unite thou in the fear of thy name.
 I will praise thee, O Jehovah, my God, with my whole heart ;
 And I will glorify thy name for ever.
 For thy loving-kindness is great towards me ; 13
 And thou hast delivered my life from the grave beneath.
 O God, the proud have risen up against me ;
 And the assembly of violent men seek after my life,
 And set not thee before them.
 But thou, O Jehovah, art a God compassionate and gracious,
 Slow to anger, and abundant in loving-kindness and truth.
 Look upon me, and be gracious to me : 16
 Give thy strength to thy servant,
 And save the son of thine handmaid.
 Give me a sign for good ;
 That they who hate me may see, and be ashamed,
 Because thou, O Jehovah, helpest me and comfortest me. 17

PSALM LXXXVII.

A Psalm for the Sons of Korah. An Ode.

Its foundation is in the holy mountain : 1
 Jehovah loveth the gates of Zion, more than all the dwellings of Jacob. 2
 Honourably art thou spoken of, O city of God. 3
 I might mention Rahab and Babel among those who know me :
 “Lo, Philistia, and Tyre, with Ethiopia :
 This man was born there.”
 But of Zion it shall be said, “This man and this were born in her :
 And he who shall establish her is the Most High.”
 Jehovah shall record, when he enrolleth peoples,
 “This man was born there.”
 And princes, like the sand of the sea,
 Are all who dwell in thee. 7

PSALM LXXXVIII.

An Ode. A Psalm for the Sons of Korah.
To the Chief Musician on Meheleth-Leonuth. A Poem
by Heman the Ezrahite.

- 1 O JEHOVAH, God of my salvation,
By day I cry, by night I am before thee.
- 2 Let my prayer come before thee :
Incline thine ear to my cry.
- 3 For my soul is full of evils ;
And my life approacheth the grave.
- 4 I am reckoned among those who have gone down to the
pit :
I am as a man who hath no strength ;
- 5 Weak, among the dead,
Like the slain who lie in the grave ;
Whom thou rememberest no more,
And who are cut off from thy protection.
- 6 Thou hast laid me in a deep pit ;
In thickest darkness, in the deep abyss.
- 7 Thy wrath presseth hard upon me,
And thou afflictest me with all thy waves.
- 8 Thou hast removed my acquaintance far from me ;
Thou hast made me an abomination to them :
I am shut up, so that I cannot go forth.
- 9 Mine eye languisheth through affliction :
I call to thee, O Jehovah, every day ;
I stretch forth my hands unto thee.
- 10 Wilt thou do wonders for the dead ?
Shall the deceased rise again, *and* praise thee ?
- 11 Shall thy loving-kindness be declared in the grave ?
Thy faithfulness in the place of destruction ?
- 12 Shall thy wonders be known in darkness ?
And thy righteousness in the land of forgetfulness ?
- 13 But I cry out to thee, O Jehovah ;
And in the morning my prayer cometh before thee.
- 14 Why, O Jehovah, dost thou cast me off ?
Why hidest thou thy face from me ?
- 15 I have been afflicted, and about to expire from *my* youth
up :
I bear thy terrors ; I am distracted.
- 16 Thy fierce wrath overwhelmeth me ;
Thy terrors cut me off.

They surround me, as waters, every day,
They encompass me together.
Thou hast removed far from me those who loved me, and 18
 my friends;
My acquaintance withdraw themselves.

PSALM LXXXIX.

A Poem by Ethan, the Ezrahite.

I WILL sing for ever of the loving-kindness of Jehovah : 1
I will make known thy faithfulness,
With my mouth, to all generations.
For I have said, ‘Loving-kindness shall be built up for 2
ever :
In the heavens themselves thou wilt establish thy faithfulness.’
“ I have made a covenant with my chosen one, 3
I have sworn to David my servant.
For ever will I establish thy seed, 4
. And I will build up thy throne to all generations.”
Let then the heavens praise thy wonders, O Jehovah ; 5
Thy faithfulness, also, in the congregation of the saints.
For who in the skies can be compared to Jehovah ? 6
Who among the sons of the mighty can be likened to Je-
hovah ?
God is to be greatly feared in the council of the saints, 7
And to be held in reverence by all who are about him.
O Jehovah, God of Hosts, who is like to thee ? 8
Strong art thou, O Jehovah, and thy faithfulness is round
about thee.
Thou rulest the pride of the sea ; 9
When it raiseth up its waves, thou stillest them.
Thou brakest Rahab like one who is slain. 10
By thy strong arm thou scatterdst thine enemies.
Thine are the heavens, thine, also, is the earth : 11
The world, and the fulness thereof, thou hast founded them.
The north and the south, thou hast created them : 12
Tabor and Hermon sing aloud in thy name.
Thou hast a mighty arm : 13
Strong is thy hand, exalted thy right-hand.
Righteousness and justice are the foundations of thy 14
 throne :
Loving-kindness and truth go before thy face.

- 15 Happy the people that know the trumpet-sound :
O Jehovah, in the light of thy face they walk.
- 16 In thy name they shall exult every day ;
And in thy righteousness they shall be exalted.
- 17 For thou art the glory of their strength ;
And by thy favour our horn is exalted.
- 18 For to Jehovah belongeth our shield,
And to the Holy One of Israel, our King.
- 19 Thou spakest formerly in vision to thy Holy One, and saidst,
- “ I have laid help on a mighty one ;
I have exalted one chosen from the people.
- 20 I have found David, my servant ;
With my holy oil I have anointed him.
- 21 With him my hand shall be established ;
My arm also shall strengthen him.
- 22 The enemy shall not injure him ;
Nor the son of iniquity afflict him.
- 23 For I will beat down his adversaries before him,
And those who hate him I will smite.
- 24 And my faithfulness and my loving-kindness shall be with him :
And in my name his horn shall be exalted.
- 25 And I will place his *left*-hand on the sea,
And his right-hand on the rivers.
- 26 He shall call upon me, ‘Thou art my Father,
My God, and the rock of my salvation.’
- 27 I will even appoint him my first-born,
Supreme over the kings of the earth.
- 28 For ever will I keep for him my kindness,
And my covenant shall be stedfast with him.
- 29 And I will make his seed to be for ever,
And his throne as the days of the heavens.
- 30 If his sons forsake my law,
And walk not in my judgments ;
- 31 If they break my statutes,
And observe not my commandments ;
- 32 Then I will punish their transgression with a rod,
And their iniquity with stripes :
- 33 Yet my loving-kindness I will not take away from him,
Neither will I suffer my faithfulness to fail.
- 34 I will not violate my covenant,
Nor will I change that which hath gone forth from my lips.

Once have I sworn by my holiness,
That I will not be false to David.
His seed shall endure for ever,
And his throne as the sun before me :
As the moon it shall be established for ever,
And as the faithful witness in the clouds.”
Yet thou hast cast off and abhorred ;
Thou hast been wroth with thine anointed.
Thou hast abhorred the covenant of thy servant ;
Thou hast profaned to the earth his crown.
Thou hast broken down all his fences ;
Thou hast laid his strong-holds in ruine.
All who pass along the way plunder him :
He is a reproach to his neighbours.
Thou hast exalted the right-hand of his adversaries ;
Thou hast caused all his enemies to rejoice.
Thou hast even turned the edge of his sword,
And hast not made him to stand up in battle.
Thou hast made his splendour to cease,
And his throne thou hast cast down to the ground.
Thou hast shortened the days of his youth :
Thou hast clothed him with shame.
How long, O Jehovah, wilt thou hide thyself ? For ever ?
How long shall thy wrath burn like fire ?
Remember what mine age is :
To what vanity thou hast created all the sons of men !
What man liveth, who shall not see death ;
Who shall deliver his soul from the power of the grave ?
Where are thy former loving-kindnesses, O Jehovah,
Which thou swarest to David in thy faithfulness ?
Remember, O Jehovah, the reproach of thy servant,
Which I bear in my bosom, from all the numerous peoples ;
With which thine enemies reproach, O Jehovah,
With which they reproach the footsteps of thine anointed.
Blessed be Jehovah for ever.
Amen and amen.

PSALM XC.

A Prayer of Moses, a man of God.

LORD, thou hast been our refuge,
In all generations.

I

- 2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
And thou hadst formed the earth and the world,
Even from everlasting to everlasting, thou wast God.
- 3 Thou turnest man to dust;
And sayest, "Return, ye sons of man."
- 4 For a thousand years in thy sight
Are as yesterday when it is past,
And as a watch in the night.
- 5 Thou carriest them away with a flood; they are a sleep:
As grass which groweth in the morning.
- 6 In the morning it flowereth and groweth;
In the evening it is cut down and withereth.
- 7 For we are consumed by thine anger,
And by thy wrath we are troubled.
- 8 Thou settest our iniquities before thee,
Our hidden sins in the light of thy countenance.
- 9 For all our days vanish away:
By thy wrath we are consumed;
Our years are a sound.
- 10 The days of our years are threescore years and ten;
And if, by strength, they be fourscore years,
Yet is their pride trouble and sorrow;
For it is soon cut off, and we fly away.
- 11 Who regardeth the power of thine anger,
Or thy wrath, according to thy fear?
- 12 So teach us to number our days,
That we may apply our hearts to wisdom.
- 13 Turn, O Jehovah; how long?
And repeat concerning thy servants.
- 14 Satisfy us speedily with thy kindness;
That we may be glad and rejoice all our days.
- 15 Make us to rejoice according to the days in which thou
hast afflicted us,
The years in which we have seen evil.
- 16 Let thy work appear to thy servants,
And thy majesty to their children.
- 17 And let the beauty of Jehovah our God be upon us,
And the work of our hands establish thou for us;
Yea, the work of our hands establish thou it.

PSALM XCI.

- 1 He who sitteth in the secret place of the Most High,
Shall lodge under the shadow of the Almighty.

I will say to Jehovah, " My refuge, and my fortress : My God, in whom I will trust."	2
Surely, he will deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, And from the destructive pestilence.	3
With his plumage he will cover thee,	4
And under his wings thou shalt trust :	
His faithfulness shall be thy shield and buckler.	5
Thou shalt not be afraid of the terror by night,	
Nor of the arrow that fieth by day ;	6
Of the pestilence that walketh in darkness ;	
Of the destruction that wasteth at noon-day.	7
A thousand may fall at thy side,	
And ten thousand at thy right-hand ;	8
To thee it shall not come nigh.	
Only with thine eyes thou shalt behold,	9
And see the recompence of the wicked.	
Truly, thou, O Jehovah, art my refuge !	
The Most High thou makest thy habitation.	
No evil shall befall thee,	10
Neither shall calamity come near thy tent.	
For he will give his angels charge over thee,	11
To preserve thee in all thy ways.	
On their hands they will bear thee up,	12
Lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.	
On the lion and the viper thou shalt tread,	13
Thou shalt trample on the young lion and the dragon.	
Because he hath set his love upon me,	14
I will deliver him :	
I will exalt him, because he knoweth my name.	
When he calleth upon me, I will answer him ;	15
I will be with him in distress ;	
I will deliver him, and I will honour him,	
With length of days I will satisfy him,	16
And show him my salvation.	

PSALM XCII.

A Psalm. An Ode for the Sabbath.

It is good to give thanks to Jehovah,	1
And to sing praises to thy name, O Most High :	2
To declare thy loving-kindness in the morning,	
And thy faithfulness every night,	2
On an instrument of ten strings, and on the psaltery ;	3

- On the lyre with the harp.
 4 For thou hast made me joyful, O Jehovah, by thy deeds ;
 For the works of thy hands I sing aloud.
 5 How great are thy works, O Jehovah !
 Exceedingly deep are thy designs :
 6 The brutish man observeth not ;
 Neither doth the foolish understand this.
 7 When the wicked spring as the grass,
 And all who do iniquity flourish,
It is but to be destroyed for ever.
 8 But thou art exalted for ever, O Jehovah :
 For, lo, thine enemies, O Jehovah,
 9 For, lo, thine enemies shall perish ;
 All who do iniquity shall be scattered abroad.
 10 But thou wilt exalt my horn like that of the buffalo :
 I shall be anointed with fresh oil.
 11 Mine eye also shall look on mine enemies,
 On those who rise up against me ;
 My ears shall hear of the wicked.
 12 The righteous man shall flourish like the palm ;
 Like the cedar in Lebanon he shall grow.
 13 They who are planted in the house of Jehovah
 Shall flourish in the courts of our God.
 14 They shall still bring forth fruit in old age,
 They shall be full of sap and green ;
 15 To declare that Jehovah is upright :
 My rock ; and no iniquity is in him.

PSALM XCIII.

- 1 JEHOVAH reigneth, clothed with majesty ;
 Jehovah is clothed *with majesty* ; with strength he hath
 girded himself.
 Truly, the world is established : it shall not be moved.
 2 Thy throne is established from of old :
 From everlasting art Thou.
 3 The streams lift up, O Jehovah,
 The streams lift up their voice ;
 The streams lift up their waves.
 4 Mightier on high is Jehovah,
 Than the noise of many waters ;
Than mighty breakers of the sea.
 5 Thy testimonies are very sure :

Holiness adorneth thy house,
O Jéhovah, for a length of days.

PSALM XCIV.

- | | |
|---|----|
| God of vengeance, Jéhovah, | 1 |
| God of vengeance, shine forth. | |
| Exalt thyself, O judge of the earth : | 2 |
| Render recompence to the proud. | |
| How long shall the wicked, O Jéhovah, | 3 |
| How long shall the wicked triumph ? | |
| They utter, they speak hard things ; | 4 |
| All the workers of iniquity boast themselves. | |
| They break in pieces thy people, O Jéhovah, | 5 |
| And they afflict thine inheritance. | |
| They slay the widow and the sojourner ; | 6 |
| And they murder the fatherless. | |
| And they say, " Jéhovah will not see, | 7 |
| Neither will the God of Jacob discern it." | |
| Consider, ye most brutish among the people ; | 8 |
| And ye foolish, when will ye be wise ? | |
| He who planted the ear, will he not hear ? | 9 |
| He who formed the eye, will he not see ? | |
| He who chastiseth nations, will he not reprove ? | 10 |
| He, who teacheth man knowledge ? | |
| Jéhovah knoweth the devices of man, | 11 |
| That they are vanity. | |
| Happy the man whom thou chastenest, O Jéhovah, | 12 |
| And whom thou teachest from thy law ! | |
| To give him quiet in the days of evil, | 13 |
| While the pit is digged for the wicked. | |
| For Jéhovah will not cast off his people, | 14 |
| Neither will he forsake his inheritance ; | |
| But right shall return to judgment, | 15 |
| And all the upright in heart shall be followers of it. | |
| Who will rise up for me against evil-doers ? | 16 |
| Who will stand up for me, against the workers of iniquity ? | |
| If Jéhovah be not my help, | 17 |
| My soul will soon dwell in silence. | |
| When I say, " My foot slippeth ; " | 18 |
| Thy loving-kindness, O Jéhovah, supporteth me. | |
| In the multitude of my anxious thoughts within me, | 19 |
| Thy consolations delight my soul. | |

- 20 Can the throne of iniquity have fellowship with thee,
Which deviseth fraud against the law?
21 They come together against the life of the righteous man,
And they condemn innocent blood.
22 But Jehovah will be my high tower,
And my God, the rock of my refuge.
23 And he will turn upon them their own iniquity,
And in their wickedness he will cut them off;
Jehovah our God will cut them off.

PSALM XCV.

- 1 COME, let us sing aloud to Jehovah ;
Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.
2 Let us come before his face with thanksgiving,
Let us make a joyful noise to him with psalms.
3 For Jehovah is a great God,
And a great king above all gods;
4 In whose hands are the depths of the earth ;
And the heights of the mountains are his :
5 Whose is the sea, for he made it,
And his hands formed the dry land.
6 Come, let us worship and bow down :
Let us kneel before Jehovah, our Maker.
7 For he is our God ;
And we are the people of his pasture, and the flock of his
hand.
Oh, that ye would this day hear his voice !
8 " Harden not your hearts, as at Meribah,
As in the day of Massah in the desert,
9 When your fathers tried me :
They proved me, though they had seen my work.
10 Forty years long I was weary of that generation, and said,
They are a people that err in their hearts,
And they know not my ways.
11 To whom I swear in mine anger,
'They shall not enter into my rest.' "

PSALM XCVI.

- 1 SING ye to Jehovah a new song ;
Sing to Jehovah, all the earth.
2 Sing to Jehovah, bless his name :
Publish his salvation from day to day.

Declare among the nations his glory ; 3
 Among all peoples his wonders.
 For great is Jehovah, and greatly to be praised : 4
 He is to be revered above all gods.
 For all the gods of the peoples are idols : 5
 But Jehovah made the heavens.
 Honour and majesty are in his presence ; 6
 Strength and beauty in his sanctuary.
 Give to Jehovah, ye families of the peoples, 7
 Give to Jehovah glory and strength.
 Give to Jehovah the glory due to his name : 8
 Bring an offering, and come into his courts :
 Worship Jehovah in holy attire. 9
 Tremble at his presence all the earth :
 Say among the nations, "Jehovah reigneth." 10
 Truly, the world shall be established, so as not to be moved :
 He will rule the peoples with equity.
 Let the heavens rejoice, and the earth be glad, 11
 Let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof.
 Let the field be joyful, and all that is therein. 12
 Let the trees of the forest sing aloud,
 At the presence of Jehovah ; for he cometh, 13
 For he cometh to judge the earth.
 He will judge the world in righteousness,
 And the peoples in his faithfulness.

PSALM XCVII.

JEHOVAH reigneth, let the earth be glad, 1
 Let the multitude of lands beyond the sea rejoice.
 Clouds and darkness are round about him : 2
 Righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.
 Fire goeth before him, 3
 And burneth up his adversaries round about.
 His lightnings enlighten the world ; 4
 The earth seeth, and trembleth.
 The mountains melt like wax, at the presence of Jehovah, 5
 At the presence of the Lord of all the earth.
 The heavens declare his righteousness, 6
 And all peoples see his glory.
 Let all who serve a graven image be ashamed, 7
 Who make their boast in idols :
 Worship him, all ye gods.

- 8 Zion heareth, and rejoiceth ;
 And the daughters of Judah are glad,
 On account of thy judgments, O Jehovah.
- 9 For thou, O Jehovah, art Most High above all the earth ;
 Greatly art thou exalted above all gods.
- 10 Ye who love Jehovah, hate evil :
 He preserveth the lives of his saints ;
 From the hand of the wicked he delivereth them.
- 11 Light is sown for the righteous,
 And joy for the upright in heart.
- 12 Rejoice, ye righteous, in Jehovah,
 And give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness.

PSALM XC VIII.

A Psalm.

- SING ye to Jehovah a new song ;
 1 For he hath done marvellous things :
 His right-hand and his holy arm hath wrought salvation
 for him.
- 2 Jehovah hath made his salvation known :
 In the sight of the nations he hath revealed his righteousness.
- 3 He hath remembered his kindness and his truth to the
 house of Israel :
 All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our
 God.
- 4 Make a joyful noise to Jehovah, all the earth ;
 Break forth, and sing aloud, and sing praise.
- 5 Sing praise to Jehovah with the harp ;
 With the harp, and the voice of a psalm.
- 6 With trumpets and the sound of the cornet,
 Sing aloud before the king, Jehovah.
- 7 Let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof ;
 The world, and they who dwell therein.
- 8 Let the rivers clap their hands ;
 Let the mountains make a joyful noise together,
- 9 At the presence of Jehovah ;
 For he cometh to judge the earth.
 He will judge the world in righteousness,
 And the peoples with equity.

PSALM XCIX.

JEHOVAH reigneth ; let the peoples tremble : 1
 He sitteth between the cherubim ; let the earth be moved.
 Jehovah is great in Zion, 2
 And high is he above all peoples.

Let them praise thy great and fearful name ; 3
 It is holy and powerful.
 A king loving judgment art thou, 4
 Thou establishest equity ;
 Judgment and righteousness thou doest in Jacob.

Extol Jehovah our God, 5
 And worship at his footstool ;
 For he is holy.

Moses and Aaron, among his ministers, 6
 And Samuel among those who called on his name ;
 They called on Jehovah, and he answered them.
 In the pillar of cloud he spake to them : 7
 They kept his testimonies, and the statutes which he gave
 to them.

Jehovah, our God, thou answeredat them : 8
 Thou wast a forgiving God to them ;
 Yet thou didst avenge their deeds.

Extol Jehovah our God, 9
 And worship at his holy mountain ;
 For Jehovah our God is holy.

PSALM C.

A Psalm of Praise.

MAKE a joyful noise to Jehovah, all the earth. 1
 Serve Jehovah with gladness ; 2
 Enter into his presence with singing.
 Know ye that Jehovah is God : 3
 He made us, and we are his ;
 His people, and the flock of his pasture.
 Enter his gates with thanksgiving, 4
 His courts with praise :

Give thanks to him, bless his name.

- 5 For Jehovah is good, his loving-kindness is everlasting,
And his truth is to all generations.

PSALM CI.

A Psalm of David.

- 1 Of mercy and of judgment I will sing :
To thee, O Jehovah, I will sing praise.
- 2 I will instruct in a perfect way
The men whom thou shalt bring to me.
I will walk with a perfect heart within my house.
- 3 I will not place before mine eyes a wicked thing :
The deed of transgression I will hate ; it shall not cleave
to me.
- 4 The perverse of heart shall depart from me :
An evil *person* I will not know.
- 5 Him who secretly slandereth his neighbour I will destroy ;
Him who hath a haughty look and a proud heart I will
not suffer.
- 6 Mine eyes shall be on the faithful in the land, that they
may dwell with me :
He who walketh in a perfect way shall serve me.
- 7 He shall not dwell in my house who acteth deceitfully :
He who speaketh falsehood shall not be established before
mine eyes.
- 8 Every morning I will destroy all the wicked of the land ;
That I may cut off from the city of Jehovah all the workers
of iniquity.

PSALM CII.

A Prayer of the afflicted, when he was faint, and poured forth his
complaint before Jehovah.

- 1 O JEHOVAH, hear my prayer,
And let my cry come unto thee.
- 2 Hide not thy face from me,
In the day of my distress ;
Incline thine ear to me :
In the day when I call, speedily answer me.
- 3 For my days are consumed like smoke,
And my bones are scorched as a firebrand.
- 4 My heart is smitten like grass, and withered ;
For I forget to eat my food.

- From the voice of my sighing, 5
 My bones adhere to my skin.
 I am become like a pelican in the wilderness : 6
 I am as an owl in the desert.
 I keep watch, like a lonely bird 7
 Upon the house-top.
 Every day mine enemies reproach me ; 8
 They who are mad against me have sworn against me.
 For I eat ashes as food, 9
 And my drink I mingle with weeping,
 Because of thine indignation and thy wrath ; 10
 For thou hast raised me up, and cast me down.
 My days are like a lengthened shadow ; 11
 And I am withered like the herbage.
 But thou, O Jehovah, shalt sit for ever, 12
 And thy remembrance shall be to all generations.
 Thou wilt arise, thou wilt have compassion on Zion : 13
 For the time to favour her, for the appointed time, is come.
 Truly, thy servants have pleasure in her stones ; 14
 Even her dust they favour.
 Then the nations shall fear the name of Jehovah, 15
 And all kings of the earth thy glory.
 When Jehovah shall have rebuilded Zion, 16
 He shall be seen in his glory.
 He will regard the prayer of the afflicted, 17
 And he will not despise their prayer.
 This shall be written for the following generation ; 18
 That the people to be created may praise Jehovah,
 Because he looked down from the height of his sanctuary : 19
 From the heavens Jehovah beheld the earth,
 To hear the groaning of the prisoner, 20
 To release those who were appointed to death ;
 That they may declare the name of Jehovah in Zion, 21
 And his praise in Jerusalem ;
 When peoples shall be collected together, 22
 And kingdoms, to serve Jehovah.
 He hath afflicted my strength in the way ; 23
 He hath shortened my days.
 I say, "O my God, take me not away in the midst of my 24
 days ;
 Thy years are through all generations.
 Of old thou foundedst the earth ; 25
 And the heavens are the work of thy hands.

- 26 These shall perish, but thou wilt endure ;
 Yea, all of them shall become old like a garment,
 As raiment thou shalt change them, and they shall be
 changed :
- 27 But thou art the same,
 And thy years will have no end.
- 28 May the children of thy servants dwell,
 And may their seed be established, before thee."

PSALM CIII.

A Psalm of David.

- 1 **BLESS** Jehovah, O my soul,
 And all within me, bless his holy name.
- 2 Bless Jehovah, O my soul,
 And forget not all his benefits,
- 3 Who pardoneth all thine iniquities ;
 Who healeth all thy diseases ;
- 4 Who redeemeth thy life from destruction ;
 Who crowneth thee with loving-kindness and compassion ;
- 5 Who satisfieth thine age with good,
 So that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.
- 6 Jehovah executeth righteousness
 And judgment for all who are oppressed.
- 7 He made known his ways to Moses,
 His acts to the children of Israel.
- 8 Jehovah is merciful and gracious,
 Slow to anger, and abundant in kindness.
- 9 He will not always contend ;
 Neither will he be angry with us for ever.
- 10 He hath not dealt with us according to our sins,
 Nor requited us according to our iniquities.
- 11 For as the height of the heavens above the earth,
 So great is his loving-kindness towards those who fear him.
- 12 As far as the east is from the west,
 So far hath he removed our transgressions from us.
- 13 As a father hath compassion on his children,
 So Jehovah hath compassion on those who fear him.
- 14 For he knoweth our frame ;
 He remembereth that we are dust.
- 15 *As for man, his days are as grass,*
As a flower of the field, so he flourisheth :

- For the wind passeth over it, and it is not ;
And its place knoweth it no more.
But the loving-kindness of Jehovah is from everlasting,
And to everlasting, towards those who fear him ;
And his righteousness to children's children ;
To those who keep his covenant,
And to those who remember his commandments, to do them.
Jehovah hath established his throne in the heavens ;
And his kingdom ruleth over all.
Bless Jehovah, all ye his angels,
Mighty in power, doing his command,
Hearkening to the voice of his word.
Bless Jehovah, all ye his hosts,
His ministers, who do his pleasure.
Bless Jehovah, all ye his works,
In all places of his dominion.
Bless Jehovah, O my soul.

PSALM CIV.

- BLESS Jehovah, O my soul.
O Jehovah my God, thou art very great;
Thou art clothed with honour and majesty.

He putteth on light as a garment;
He stretcheth out the heavens as an awning;
He constructeth in the waters his upper chamber:
He maketh the clouds his chariot;
He rideth on the wings of the wind:
He maketh the winds his messengers;
Flaming fire his ministers.
He established the earth upon its foundations,
That it might not be moved for ever and ever.

With the deep thou coveredst it as with a garment;
The waters stood above the mountains.
At thy rebuke they fled;
At the sound of thy thunder they hasted away.
They go up to the mountains, they go down into the valleys,
To the place which thou hast founded for them.
Thou hast set a boundary that they may not pass over;
That they may not again cover the earth.

- 10 He sendeth springs into the valleys,
Which take their course among the mountains.
11 They give drink to every beast of the field :
The wild asses quench their thirst.
12 Near them the birds of the heavens dwell,
They sing among the leafy branches.
13 He watereth the hills from his upper chambers :
From the fruits of thy works the earth is satisfied.
14 He maketh grass to grow for cattle,
And herbage for the service of man.
15 He bringeth forth food from the earth,
And wine that rejoiceth the heart of man ;
Oil, to make his face shine,
And bread which sustaineth the heart of man.
16 The trees of Jehovah are filled ;
The cedars of Lebanon, which he hath planted ;
17 In which the birds build their nests :
The fir-trees are the house of the stork.
18 The lofty hills are for the rock-goats ;
The craggy rocks, a refuge for the cavies.
19 He hath made the moon for stated seasons :
The sun knoweth the time for its going down.
20 Thou bringest darkness, and it is night ;
In which every beast of the forest creepeth forth.
21 The young lions roar for their prey,
Seeking their food from God.
22 The sun ariseth, they withdraw themselves,
And lie down in their dens.
23 Man goeth forth to his work,
And to his labour, until the evening.
24 How manifold are thy works, O Jehovah !
In wisdom thou hast made them all.
The earth is full of thy riches.
25 The sea—great and wide !
There are moving things without number,
Living creatures, small and great.
26 There go ships ;
There is leviathan, which thou hast formed to play therein !
27 All these wait on thee,
To give to them their food in its season.
28 Thou givest to them, they gather it ;
Thou openest thy hand, they are satisfied with good.
29 Thou hidest thy face, they are troubled ;

Thou withdrawest their breath, they die,
And to their dust they return.
Thou sendest forth thy breath, they are created ; 30
And thou renewest the face of the earth.

The glory of Jehovah shall endure for ever : 31
Jehovah shall rejoice in his works.
He looketh on the earth, and it trembleth ; 32
He toucheth the mountains, and they smoke.
I will sing to Jehovah while I live ; 33
I will sing praise to my God while I endure.
May my discourse be pleasing to him ! 34
I will rejoice in Jehovah.

Let sinners be wholly removed out of the land ; 35
And let the wicked be no more !
Bless Jehovah, O my soul.
Praise ye Jehovah.

PSALM CV.

Give thanks to Jehovah ; call upon his name : 1
Make known his deeds among the peoples.
Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him : 2
Recount ye all his wonderful works.
Glory in his holy name : 3
Let the heart of those who seek Jehovah rejoice.
Seek Jehovah and his power : 4
Seek his face evermore.
Remember the marvellous works he hath done, 5
His wonders, and the judgments of his mouth,
Ye seed of Abraham his servant, 6
Ye children of Jacob his chosen one.

He is Jehovah our God : 7
His judgments are in all the earth.
He hath ever been mindful of his covenant, 8
The promise which he gave to a thousand generations ;
The covenant which he made with Abraham, 9
And his oath to Isaac ;
Which he established to Jacob for a statute, 10
To Israel an everlasting covenant :
Saying, "To thee I will give the land of Canaan, 11

- The portion of your inheritance ; ”
 12 When they were but small in number,
 Very few, and sojourners in it ;
 13 And were going about from one nation to another,
 From one kingdom to another people.
 14 He suffered no man to oppress them ;
 He even reproved kings on their account.
 15 “ Touch not mine anointed ones,
 And do my prophets no harm.”
 16 And he called for famine upon the land ;
 He brake the whole staff of bread.
 17 He sent before them a man ;
 Joseph was sold into slavery.
 18 They hurt his feet with fetters ;
 He was laid in iron.
 19 Until the time when His word came ;
Until the word of Jehovah tried him.
 20 The king sent and loosed him ;
 The ruler of peoples *sent*, and set him free.
 21 He made him lord of his house,
 And ruler of all that he possessed ;
 22 To bind his princes at his pleasure,
 And teach his aged men wisdom.
 23 Then Israel went into Egypt ;
 And Jacob sojourned in the land of Ham.
 24 And He increased his people exceedingly,
 And made them stronger than their adversaries.
 25 Thus he turned their heart to hate his people,
 To act deceitfully towards his servants.
 26 He sent Moses, his servant ;
 Aaron, whom he had chosen.
 27 They wrought among them his signs,
 And wonders, in the land of Ham.
 28 He sent darkness, and made it dark :
 And they rebelled not against his word.
 29 He turned their waters into blood,
 And slew all their fish.
 30 The land swarmed with frogs,
 In the chambers of their kings.
 31 He spake, and the beetle came ;
 Gnats within all their boundaries.
 32 He made their rain hail,
 A flaming fire in their land.

And he smote their vines and their fig-trees ; 33
 And brake in pieces the trees within their boundaries.
 He spake, and the locust came, 34
 And the created-locust, without number ;
 And it devoured all the herbage in the land, 35
 And devoured the fruits of the ground.
 Then he smote all the first-born in their land, 36
 The beginning of all their strength.
 And he brought them forth with silver and gold : 37
 And among their tribes there was no one feeble.
 Egypt rejoiced at their departure ; 38
 For their terror had fallen upon them.
 He spread abroad a cloud for a covering, 39
 And fire to give light by night.
 They asked, and he brought quails ; 40
 And with the bread of heaven he filled them.
 He opened a rock, and waters gushed out ; 41
 They ran in dry places, a river.
 For he remembered his holy promise 42
 To Abraham his servant.
 Therefore he brought out his people with joy, 43
 His chosen ones with singing.
 And he gave them the lands of nations : 44
 And the labour of peoples they inherited,
 In order that they might observe his statutes, 45
 And keep his laws.
 Praise ye Jehovah.

PSALM CVI.

Praise ye Jehovah.

GIVE thanks to Jehovah, for he is good ; 1
 For his loving-kindness endureth for ever.
 Who can utter the mighty acts of Jehovah ? 2
Who can make known all his praise ?
 Happy they who keep judgment, 3
 Who do righteously at all times !

Remember me, O Jehovah, with the favour of thy people :
 Visit me with thy salvation ;
 That I may see the prosperity of thy chosen ones, 5
 That I may rejoice in the joy of thy nation,
 That I may glory with thine inheritance.

- 6 We have sinned as our fathers,
We have committed iniquity, we have done wickedly.
7 Our fathers in Egypt understood not thy wonderful
works :
They remembered not the multitude of thy mercies ;
But they rebelled at the sea, at the Red Sea.
8 Yet he saved them for his name's sake,
That he might make known his mighty power :
9 And he rebuked the Red Sea, and it was dried up ;
While he led them through the depths, as a desert ;
10 And he saved them from the hand of those who hated
them,
And redeemed them from the hand of the enemy.
11 But the waters overwhelmed their adversaries ;
Not one of them was left.
12 Then they believed his words ;
They sang his praise.
13 They soon forgot his works ;
They waited not for his counsel ;
14 But longed eagerly in the desert,
And tried God in the wilderness.
15 So he granted them their request,
But sent a wasting disease amongst them.
16 Then they were jealous of Moses in the camp,
And of Aaron the holy one of Jehovah.
17 The earth opened, and swallowed up Dathan,
And covered the company of Abiram :
18 And fire consumed their company ;
A flame burnt up the wicked.
19 They made a calf at Horeb,
And worshipped the molten image ;
20 And they changed their glory
For the likeness of an ox that eateth grass.
21 They forgot God who had saved them ;
Who had done great things in Egypt,
22 Wonderful works in the land of Ham,
Terrible things by the Red Sea.
23 Therefore he said that he would destroy them,
Had not Moses, his chosen one,
Stood in the breach before him,
To turn away his wrath from destroying them.
24 Then they despised the desirable land ;
They trusted not in his word,

- But murmured in their tents : 25
 They would not listen to the voice of Jehovah.
 Therefore he raised his hand concerning them, 26
 That he would cause them to fall in the desert ;
 That he would cause their seed to fall among the nations, 27
 And scatter them in the lands.
- They joined themselves to Baal-Peor, 28
 And ate the sacrifices of the dead.
 And they provoked *him* to anger by their doings ; 29
 So that a plague broke in upon them.
 Then Phinehas arose, and executed justice ; 30
 And the plague was restrained.
 And this was counted to him for righteousness, 31
 To all generations for ever.
- Again they angered *him* at the waters of Meribah, 32
 And Moses suffered on their account :
 For they provoked his spirit, 33
 So that he spake unadvisedly with his lips.
- They destroyed not the peoples, 34
 As Jehovah had commanded them ;
 But mingled themselves with the nations, 35
 And learned their works ;
 And they served their idols, 36
 And these became a snare to them.
 They even sacrificed their sons 37
 And their daughters to demons ;
 And they poured forth innocent blood, 38
 The blood of their sons and daughters,
 Whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan :
 So that the land was profaned by blood.
 And they were polluted by their works, 39
 And went astray by their doings.
- Therefore the anger of Jehovah was hot against his 40
 people,
 And he abhorred his own inheritance.
 And he gave them into the power of the nations ; 41
 And they who hated them ruled over them.
 And their enemies oppressed them, 42
 And they bowed down under their power.
 Many times he delivered them ; 43
 Yet they provoked him by their counsel,
 And were brought low by their iniquity.
 Yet he regarded their affliction, 44

- When he heard their cry :
 45 And remembered for them his covenant,
 And repented according to the greatness of his loving-kindness.
 46 And he made them to be pitied
 In the sight of all who had carried them away captive.
 47 Save us, O Jehovah our God,
 And gather us from among the nations,
 To give thanks to thy holy name,
 To triumph in thy praise.
 48 Blessed be Jehovah, God of Israel,
 From everlasting to everlasting :
 And let all the people say, Amen.
 Praise ye Jehovah.

PSALM CVII.

- 1 Give thanks to Jehovah, for he is good ;
 For his loving-kindness *endureth* for ever.
 2 Thus let the redeemed of Jehovah say,
 Those whom he hath redeemed from the power of the adversary ;
 3 And whom he hath gathered from the lands,
 From the east and from the west,
 From the north and from the south.
 4 They were wandering in a desert, in a wilderness ;
 The way to a habitable city they could not find.
 5 Hungry and thirsty,
 Their soul fainted within them.
 6 Then they cried to Jehovah in their trouble,
 He delivered them from their distresses ;
 7 And he led them by a strait path,
 That they might go to a habitable city.
 8 Let them praise Jehovah for his loving-kindness,
 And for his wonderful works to the children of men.
 9 For he hath satisfied the craving soul,
 And the famished soul he hath filled with good.
 10 They were sitting in darkness, and in the shadow of death,
 Bound by affliction and iron ;

- Because they had rebelled against the words of God, 11
 And contemned the counsel of the Most High.
 Therefore he bowed down their heart with sorrow ; 12
 They fell, and there was none to help.
 Then they cried to Jehovah in their trouble, 13
 From their distresses he delivered them.
 He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death, 14
 And their bands he brake asunder.
- Let them praise Jehovah for his loving-kindness, 15
 And for his wonderful works to the children of men.
 For he hath broken the gates of brass, 16
 And the bars of iron he hath cut asunder.
- Foolish men, because of their transgressions, 17
 And because of their iniquities, were afflicted :
 All sorts of food their soul abhorred ; 18
 They drew nigh to the gates of death.
 Then they cried to Jehovah in their trouble : 19
 From their distresses he delivered them.
 He sent his word and healed them, 20
 And delivered them from their destruction.
- Let them praise Jehovah for his loving-kindness, 21
 And for his wonderful works to the children of men..
 And let them offer the sacrifices of praise, 22
 And recount his deeds with rejoicing.
- They who go down to the sea in ships, 23
 Who transact business on the great waters,
 These see the works of Jehovah, 24
 And his wonders in the deep ;
 How he commandeth and raiseth the stormy wind, 25
 Which lifteth up the waves on high.
 They mount up to the heavens ; they sink down to the 26
 depths ;
 Their spirit melteth in their calamity.
 They reel and stagger like a drunken man, 27
 And all their skill is of none effect.
 Then they cry to Jehovah in their trouble, 28
 And he delivereth them from their distresses.
 He turneth the stormy wind into a calm, 29
 And their waves are hushed.

- 30 Then they rejoice because they are still ;
And he bringeth them to their desired haven.
- 31 Let them praise Jehovah for his loving-kindness,
And for his wonderful works to the children of men.
- 32 And let them extol him in the congregation of the people,
And in the assembly of the elders let them praise him.
- 33 He turneth rivers into a desert,
And springs of water into dry ground ;
- 34 A fruitful land into a barren soil,
For the wickedness of those who dwell therein.
- 35 He turneth a desert into a pool of water,
And a dry land into springs of water.
- 36 And there he maketh the famished to dwell,
That they may prepare a habitable city ;
- 37 And may sow fields, and plant vineyards,
Which may yield fruits of increase.
- 38 And he blesseth them, so that they are multiplied greatly ;
And he suffereth not their cattle to decrease.
- 39 They had been reduced and bowed down
By oppression, affliction, and sorrow :
- 40 He had poured contempt upon princes,
And made them to wander in a pathless waste ;
- 41 But he raiseth the needy from affliction,
And maketh their families like a flock.
- 42 The upright shall see, and shall rejoice,
While all iniquity shall shut her mouth.
- 43 Who is wise and will observe these things,
He shall discern the loving-kindness of Jehovah.

PSALM CVIII.

An Ode. A Psalm of David.

- 1 My heart is fixed, O God ;
I will sing and give praise.
- 2 Awake, my glory ; awake, lute and harp ;
I will awake early.
- 3 I will praise thee among the peoples, O Jehovah,
And I will sing of thee among the nations ;
- 4 For thy loving-kindness reacheth unto the heavens,
And unto the clouds thy faithfulness.

N N 2

Exalt thyself above the heavens, O God ; 5
 Let thy glory be above all the earth !
 That thy beloved may be delivered, 6
 Save with thy right-hand, and hear me.
 God hath spoken in his sanctuary. 7
 I will exult ; I will apportion Shechem,
 And the valley of Succoth I will measure out.
 Gilead shall be mine ; and Manasseh shall be mine, 8
 And Ephraim shall be the strength of my head.
 Judah shall be my leader.
 Moab shall be my washing-basin ; 9
 Upon Edom I will cast my sandal ;
 Over Philistia I will shout aloud.
 Who will bring me to the fortified city ? 10
 Who will conduct me to Edom ?
 Wilt not thou, O God, who hadst cast us off ? 11
 And wilt not thou go forth, O God, with our hosts ?
 O grant us help from trouble ; 12
 Since vain is the help of man.
 Through God we shall do valiantly : 13
 For he himself will tread down our adversaries.

PSALM CIX.

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.

O God of my praise, be not silent ; 1
 For the mouth of the wicked, and the mouth of the de- 2
 ceitful
 Are opened against me :
 They speak against me with a lying tongue.
 With words of hatred also they compass me about, 3
 And fight against me without cause.
 In return for my love, they are adverse to me ; 4
 But I offer prayer.
 Yet they would bring evil upon me in return for good,
 And hatred in return for my love.
 "Give him in charge," they say, "to a wicked man, 6
 And let an accuser stand at his right-hand.
 When he is judged, let him come forth guilty,
 And let his prayer be accounted sin.
 May his days be few : 8
 His office may another take.
 May his children be fatherless, | 9

- And his wife a widow.
- 10 May his children wander about and beg,
And from their desolate places, seek *their bread*.
- 11 May the usurer seize upon all he hath ;
And may strangers plunder his substance.
- 12 May there be no one to extend kindness to him ;
Neither may there be any one to favour his fatherless
children.
- 13 May his posterity be cut off ;
In the next generation may his name be blotted out.
- 14 May the iniquity of his fathers be remembered by Jehovah,
And may the sin of his mother not be blotted out.
- 15 May they be before Jehovah continually,
That he may cut off their memory from the earth.
- 16 Because he remembered not to show kindness,
But persecuted the man who was *afflicted* and needy,
And broken-hearted, that he might put them to death.
- 17 As he loved cursing, so may it come upon him :
As he delighted not in blessing, so may it be far from him.
- 18 And may he be clothed with cursing as with a garment :
May it enter like water into his bowels,
And like oil into his bones.
- 19 May it be to him as the robe with which he covereth him-
self,
And as the girdle with which he is continually girded."
- 20 Such be the reward of my accusers from Jehovah !
And of those who speak evil against my life.
- 21 But do thou, O Jehovah, defend me for the sake of thy
name ;
Because thy loving-kindness is good, deliver me.
- 22 For I am afflicted and needy,
And my heart is wounded within me.
- 23 As the shadow when it is lengthened, I am going away :
I am driven about like the locust.
- 24 My knees are become weak through fasting ;
And my flesh faileth of fatness.
- 25 I am also a subject of reproach to them :
When they see me, they shake their heads.
- 26 Help me, O Jehovah, my God :
Save me, according to thy loving-kindness ;
- 27 That they may know that it is thy hand,
That thou, O Jehovah, hast done this.
- 28 Let them curse, but bless thou :

Let them rise up, and be ashamed; but let thy servant rejoice.

May my accusers be clothed with shame; 29

May they cover themselves with their shame as with a mantle.

I will greatly praise Jehovah, with my mouth; 30

And in the midst of the multitude I will praise him;

Because he standeth at the right hand of the needy, 31
To save him from those who would condemn his life.

PSALM CX.

A Psalm of David.

JEHOVAH said unto my Lord,

1

“ Sit thou at my right-hand,

Until I make thine enemies thy footstool.

Jehovah shall send forth from Zion the sceptre of thy power: 2

Rule thou in the midst of thine enemies.”

Thy people shall be most willing in the day of thine army, 3
in the holy mountains;

More than *the dew* from the womb of the morning shall
be the dew of thy youth.

Jehovah hath sworn, and he will not repent,

4

“ Thou shalt be a priest for ever

According to the order of Melchizedek.”

Jehovah, at thy right-hand,

5

Shall smite kings in the day of his anger.

He shall judge the nations; he shall fill them with dead 6
bodies;

He shall wound the head over a spacious land.

From the torrent by the way he shall drink:

7

Wherefore he shall lift up his head.

PSALM CXI.

PRAISE ye Jehovah.

I will give thanks to Jehovah with my whole heart,

1

In the council of the upright and in the assembly.

2

Great are the deeds of Jehovah,

Sought after by all who delight in them.

3

Glorious and honourable is his work,

And his righteousness remaineth for ever.

4

He hath made his wonders a memorial:

Gracious and full of compassion is Jehovah.

- 5 He gave food to those who feared him :
He ever remembreth his covenant.
- 6 The power of his works he hath shown to his people,
By giving to them the inheritance of nations.
- 7 The works of his hands are truth and justice :
All his commandments are sure ;
- 8 Steadfast for ever and ever,
Being done in truth and uprightness.
- 9 He hath sent redemption to his people ;
He hath appointed his covenant for ever :
Holy and venerable is his name.
- 10 The fear of Jehovah is the beginning of wisdom :
A good understanding have all they who do it :
His praise remaineth for ever.

Praise ye Jehovah.

PSALM CXII.

- 1 HAPPY the man who feareth Jehovah,
Who delighteth greatly in his commandments.
- 2 His seed shall be mighty in the land ;
The generation of the upright shall be blessed.
- 3 Wealth and riches shall be in his house ;
And his righteousness shall endure for ever.
- 4 Light ariseth in darkness upon the upright :
Upon him who is gracious, and full of compassion, and
righteous.
- 5 It is good for a man to be gracious and to lend :
He will maintain his cause in judgment.
- 6 Surely he shall never be moved :
The just shall be in everlasting remembrance.
- 7 At the report of evil he will not be afraid :
His heart is fixed, trusting in Jehovah.
- 8 His heart is established, he will not fear,
Till he see his desire on his enemies.
- 9 He disperseth ; he giveth to the poor ;
His righteousness remaineth for ever ;
His horn shall be exalted in honour.
- 10 The wicked man shall see and be grieved ;
He shall gnash his teeth and pine away :
The desire of the wicked shall perish.

PSALM CXIII.

PRAISE ye Jehovah.

- | | |
|--|---|
| Praise ye, O ye servants of Jehovah, | 1 |
| Praise ye the name of Jehovah. | 2 |
| May the name of Jehovah be blessed, | 2 |
| From this time and for evermore. | |
| From the rising of the sun to its going down, | 3 |
| Praised be the name of Jehovah. | |
| High above all nations is Jehovah ; | 4 |
| Above the heavens is his glory. | |
| Who is like to Jehovah our God ? | 5 |
| Who exalteth himself to dwell in the heavens ; | |
| Who humbleth himself to regard the earth ; | 6 |
| Who raiseth the needy from the dust, | 7 |
| And exalteth the poor from the dung-hill ; | |
| To seat him with nobles, | 8 |
| With the nobles of his people ; | 9 |
| Who maketh the barren woman to dwell in a house, | |
| A joyful mother of sons. | 9 |
- Praise ye Jehovah.

PSALM CXIV.

- | | |
|---|---|
| WHEN Israel came out of Egypt, | 1 |
| The house of Jacob from a people of a barbarous tongue, | |
| Judah was his sanctuary, | 2 |
| Israel his dominion. | |

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| The sea saw, and fled ; | 3 |
| Jordan turned back. | |
| The mountains skipped like rams, | 4 |
| The hills like lambs. | |

- | | |
|--|---|
| What ailed thee, O sea, that thou fleddest ? | 5 |
| O Jordan, that thou turnedst back ? | |
| Ye mountains, that ye skipped like rams ? | 6 |
| Ye hills, like lambs ? | |

- | | |
|--|---|
| At the presence of the Lord, tremble, O earth, | 7 |
| At the presence of the God of Jacob ; | |
| Who turned the rock into a pool of water, | 8 |
| The flinty-rock, into fountains of water. | |

PSALM CXV.

- 1 Not unto us, O Jehovah, not unto us,
But unto thy name give glory,
For the sake of thy loving-kindness, and for the sake of
thy truth.
- 2 Why should the nations say,
“Where now is their God?”
- 3 Truly our God is in the heavens ;
He doeth whatsoever he pleaseth.
- 4 Their idols are silver and gold,
The work of men’s hands.
- 5 They have a mouth, but they speak not ;
They have eyes, but they see not ;
- 6 They have ears, but they hear not ;
They have a nose, but they smell not ;
- 7 Hands, but they handle not ;
Feet, but they walk not ;
They make no sound with their throat.
- 8 They who make them are like unto them ;
So is every one who trusteth in them.
- 9 The house of Israel trusteth in Jehovah :
He is their help and their shield.
- 10 The house of Aaron trusteth in Jehovah :
He is their help and their shield.
- 11 They who fear Jehovah, trust in Jehovah ;
He is their help and their shield.
- 12 Jehovah hath been mindful of us.
He will bless, he will bless the house of Israel ;
He will bless the house of Aaron ;
- 13 He will bless those who fear Jehovah,
The small and the great.
- 14 Jehovah will increase *his blessings* upon you ;
Upon you and upon your children.
- 15 Blessed are ye of Jehovah,
Who made the heavens and the earth.
- 16 The heavens, the heavens are for Jehovah ;
But the earth he hath given to the children of men.
- 17 The dead praise not Jehovah,

Neither any of those who are gone down into silence.
 But we will bless Jehovah
 From this time and for evermore.
 Praise ye Jehovah.

18

PSALM CXVI.

I LOVE Jehovah, because he hath heard The voice of my supplication.	1
Because he hath inclined his ear to me, Therefore as long as I live, I will call upon him.	2
The toils of death surrounded me, And the distresses of the grave had found me:	3
I had found distress and sorrow.	
Then I called on the name of Jehovah,	4
“O Jehovah, deliver my soul!”	
Gracious is Jehovah and righteous;	5
Yea, our God is full of compassion.	
Jehovah preserveth the simple;	6
I was brought low and he saved me.	
Return my soul to thy rest;	7
For Jehovah hath dealt kindly with thee.	
For Thou hast delivered my soul from death,	8
Mine eyes from tears, my feet from falling.	
I shall walk before Jehovah,	9
In the land of the living.	
I believed, although I said,	10
“I am exceedingly afflicted.”	
Although I said in my perturbation,	11
“All men are false.”	
What shall I render to Jehovah,	12
For all his benefits towards me?	
I will take the cup of salvation,	13
And call on the name of Jehovah.	
I will pay my vows to Jehovah,	14
In the presence of all his people.	
Precious in the eyes of Jehovah	15
Is the death of his saints.	
O Jehovah, truly I am thy servant;	16
I am thy servant, and the son of thy hand-maid:	
Thou hast loosed my bonds.	
To thee will I sacrifice the sacrifice of thanksgiving,	17
And I will call on the name of Jehovah.	

- 18 I will pay my vows to Jehovah,
In the presence of all his people;
19 In the courts of the house of Jehovah,
In the midst of thee, O Jerusalem.
Praise ye Jehovah.

PSALM CXVII.

- 1 PRAISE Jehovah, all ye nations :
Praise him, all ye peoples.
2 For his loving-kindness is great towards us ;
And the faithfulness of Jehovah endureth for ever.
Praise ye Jehovah.

PSALM CXVIII.

- 1 GIVE thanks to Jehovah ; for he is good :
For his loving-kindness endureth for ever.
2 Let the house of Israel now say,
“ His loving-kindness endureth for ever.”
3 Let the house of Aaron now say,
“ His loving-kindness endureth for ever.”
4 Let those who fear Jehovah now say,
“ His loving-kindness endureth for ever.”
- 5 In distress I called on Jehovah :
Jehovah answered me in a wide place.
6 Jehovah is for me ;
I will not fear what man can do unto me.
7 Jehovah is for me, among those who help me ;
Therefore I shall see my desire on those who hate me.
- 8 It is better to trust in Jehovah,
Than to put confidence in man.
9 It is better to trust in Jehovah,
Than to put confidence in princes.
- 10 All the nations encompassed me :
In the name of Jehovah, truly, I cut them off.
11 They encompassed me, yea, they encompassed me :
Verily, in the name of Jehovah, I cut them off.
12 They encompassed me like a swarm of bees :
They are quenched as a fire of thorns :

- Verily, in the name of Jehovah, I cut them off.
 Thou didst thrust violently at me, that I might fall ; 13
 But Jehovah helped me.
 Jehovah is my strength and my song,
 And he hath been my salvation.
 The voice of singing and salvation
 Is in the tents of the righteous.
 "The right-hand of Jehovah hath done valiantly ;
 The right-hand of Jehovah is exalted ;
 The right-hand of Jehovah hath done valiantly."
 I shall not die, but I shall live,
 That I may declare the deeds of Jehovah.
 Severely hath Jehovah chastened me ;
 But he hath not given me over to death.
 Open to me the gates of righteousness,
 That I may enter them and give thanks to Jehovah.

 This is the gate of Jehovah :
 The righteous shall enter it.

 I will give thanks to thee, for thou hast answered me,
 And hast been my salvation.

 The stone which the builders refused
 Is become the chief corner-stone.
 This hath been from Jehovah ;
 It is wonderful in our eyes.
 This is the day which Jehovah hath made ;
 We will exult and rejoice in it.
 O Jehovah, save now, we pray thee ;
 O Jehovah, send now, we pray thee, prosperity.

 Blessed be he who cometh in the name of Jehovah :
 We bless you from the house of Jehovah.
 Jehovah is God, who hath enlightened us.
 Bind the sacrifice with cords ;
 Bring it to the horns of the altar.

 Thou art my God, and I will give thee thanks ;
 My God, I will exalt thee.

 Give thanks to Jehovah, for he is good ;
 For his loving-kindness *endureth* for ever.

PSALM CXIX.

- 1 HAPPY they who are perfect in the way,
Who walk in the law of Jehovah.
- 2 Happy they who keep his testimonies ;
Who with their whole heart seek him.
- 3 Who also do not iniquity ;
Who walk in his ways.
- 4 Thou hast commanded that thy precepts
Should be observed diligently.
- 5 O that my ways were established
To observe thy statutes !
- 6 Then I shall not be ashamed,
When I regard all thy commandments.
- 7 I will praise thee in uprightness of heart,
When I shall have learned thy righteous judgments.
- 8 I will observe thy statutes :
Forsake' me not utterly.
- 9 Wherewith shall a young man make pure his way ?
By observing thy words.
- 10 With my whole heart I have sought thee ;
Let me not wander from thy commandments.
- 11 I have hidden thy words in my heart,
That I may not sin against thee.
- 12 Blessed art thou, O Jehovah ;
Teach me thy statutes.
- 13 With my lips have I declared
All the judgments of thy mouth.
- 14 I greatly rejoice in the way of thy testimonies,
As much as for all riches.
- 15 I meditate in thy precepts,
And I look to thy ways.
- 16 I delight in thy statutes :
I forget not thy word.
- 17 Recompense thy servant, that I may live,
And observe thy words.
- 18 Uncover mine eyes, that I may see
The wonders of thy law.
- 19 I am a stranger in the earth ;
Hide not from me thy commandments.
- 20 My spirit is broken, through the desire

- Of thy judgments at all times. 21
 Thou rebukest the proud, the accursed,
 Who wander from thy commandments. 22
 Remove from me reproach and contempt;
 For I have kept thy testimonies. 23
 Princes truly sit, they speak against me;
 Thy servant meditateth in thy statutes. 24
 Thy testimonies are indeed my delight,
 My counsellors.
- My spirit cleaveth to the dust; 25
 Revive me according to thy word.
 My ways I declare unto thee; Q answer me: 26
 Teach me thy statutes.
 Make me to understand the way of thy precepts; 27
 And I will meditate on thy wonders.
 My spirit is poured forth through sorrow: 28
 Raise me up according to thy words.
 Turn aside the way of falsehood from me, 29
 And graciously grant me thy law.
 The way of truth I have chosen; 30
 Thy judgments I set before me.
 I cleave to thy testimonies: 31
 O Jehovah, let me not be ashamed.
 I will run in the way of thy commandments, 32
 When thou shalt have enlarged my heart.
- Teach me, O Jehovah, the way of thy statutes; 33
 And I will keep it to the end.
 Cause me to understand, that I may keep thy law, 34
 And observe it with my whole heart.
 Guide me in the path of thy commandments; 35
 For in it I delight.
 Incline my heart to thy testimonies, 36
 And not to covetousness.
 Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity: 37
 Enliven me in thy way.
 Establish thy word to thy servant, 38
 Who is devoted to thy fear.
 Turn away my reproach, which I dread; 39
 For thy judgments are good.
 Lo, I have a desire for thy precepts: 40
 In thy righteousness revive me.

- 41 And let thy loving-kindness, O Jehovah, come to me ;
 Thy salvation, according to thy word.
- 42 Then shall I be able to answer him who reproacheth me ;
 For I trust in thy words.
- 43 And take not utterly from my mouth the word of truth ;
 For in thy judgments I hope.
- 44 Then shall I observe thy law continually,
 For ever and ever.
- 45 And I shall walk in a wide place ;
 Because I have kept thy precepts.
- 46 And I will speak of thy testimonies
 Before kings, and not be ashamed.
- 47 And I will greatly delight in thy commandments,
 Which I love.
- 48 And I will lift up my hands to thy commandments,
 Which I love ; and I will meditate in thy statutes.
- 49 Remember thy word to thy servant,
 On which thou hast caused me to hope.
- 50 This is my comfort in my affliction,
 That thy word reviveth me.
- 51 The proud deride me greatly :
 From thy law I turn not aside.
- 52 I remember thy judgments of old,
 O Jehovah, and comfort myself.
- 53 Great sorrow hath seized me,
 On account of the wicked who forsake thy law.
- 54 Thy statutes are my songs
 In the house of my sojourning.
- 55 In the night I remember thy name, O Jehovah,
 And I observe thy law.
- 56 This I have,
 Because I keep thy precepts.
- 57 My portion, O Jehovah, I have said,
 Is to observe thy words.
- 58 I entreat thy favour with my whole heart :
 Be gracious to me according to thy word.
- 59 I consider my ways,
 And turn my feet to thy statutes.
- 60 I make haste and delay not
 To observe thy commandments.
- 61 The cords of wicked men are about me ;

- Thy law I forget not. 61
 At midnight I rise to give thanks to thee, 62
 On account of thy righteous judgments.
 I am a friend of all who fear thee, 63
 And of those who observe thy precepts.
 The earth, O Jehovah, is full of thy loving-kindness : 64
 Teach me thy statutes.
- Thou dealest well with thy servant, 65
 According to thy word, O Jehovah.
 Teach me good judgment and knowledge : 66
 For I believe thy commandments.
 Before I was afflicted, I went astray, 67
 But now I observe thy word.
 Thou art good, and doest good : 68
 Teach me thy statutes.
 The proud devise falsehood against me : 69
 I with my whole heart keep thy precepts.
 Their heart is gross as fat : 70
 I greatly rejoice in thy law.
 It hath been good for me that I have been afflicted, 71
 That I might learn thy statutes.
 Better to me is the law of thy mouth 72
 Than thousands of gold and silver.
- Thy hands made me and fashioned me : 73
 Give me understanding that I may learn thy commandments.
 They who fear thee will see me and rejoice, 74
 Because I have hoped in thy word.
 I know, O Jehovah, that thy judgments are righteous, 75
 And that in faithfulness thou afflictest me.
 Let now thy kindness be for my comfort, 76
 According to thy promise to thy servant.
 Let thy compassion come to me, that I may live ; 77
 For thy law is my delight.
 Let the proud be ashamed that they have subverted me 78
 falsely :
 I meditate in thy precepts.
 Let them turn to me who fear thee, 79
 And who know thy testimonies.
 Let my heart be perfect in thy statutes,
 That I may not be ashamed. 80

- 81 My soul faileth for thy salvation ;
In thy word I trust.
82 Mine eyes fail for thy promise,
While I say, " When wilt thou comfort me ? "
83 Though I am like a bottle in the smoke,
I do not forget thy statutes.
84 How many are the days of thy servant ?
When wilt thou execute judgment on those who persecute
me ?
85 The proud dig pits for me ;
Which is not according to thy law.
86 All thy commandments are faithful ;
They persecute me wrongfully ; help thou me.
87 They have almost consumed me in the land ;
Yet I forsake not thy precepts.
88 According to thy loving-kindness revive me ;
And I will observe the testimonies of thy mouth.
- 89 For ever, O Jehovah,
Thy word is fixed in the heavens.
90 Thy faithfulness is to all generations ;
Thou hast established the earth and it abideth.
91 According to thine appointment they abide unto this day,
Because all are thy servants.
92 Had not thy law been my great delight,
I should long ago have perished in mine affliction.
93 Never will I forget thy precepts ;
For by them thou revivest me.
94 Thine I am, save me :
I seek for thy precepts.
95 The wicked wait for me to destroy me :
I consider thy testimonies.
96 I have seen a limit to all perfection :
Thy commandment is exceedingly wide.
- 7 How I love thy law !
It is my meditation all the day.
98 Thy commandment maketh me wiser than mine enemies :
For it is ever with me.
99 I have more skill than all my teachers ;
Because thy testimonies are my meditation.
100 I understand more than the aged ;
Because I keep thy precepts.

- I restrain my feet from every evil way,
That I may observe thy word. 101
 I depart not from thy judgments ;
For thou hast instructed me. 102
 How sweet to my palate are thy words !
Sweeter than honey to my mouth ! 103
 From thy precepts I get understanding ;
Wherefore I hate every false way. 104
- Thy word is a lamp to my feet,
And a light to my path. 105
 I have sworn, and I will perform it,
To observe thy righteous judgments. 106
 I am exceedingly afflicted ;
Revive me, O Jehovah, according to thy word. 107
 Accept, O Jehovah, the free-will offerings of my mouth,
And teach me thy judgments. 108
 My life is continually in my hand ;
But thy law I forget not. 109
 The wicked have placed a snare for me ;
But I have not wandered from thy precepts. 110
 Thy testimonies I possess as a perpetual heritage ;
For they are the joy of my heart. 111
 I have inclined my heart to do thy statutes,
For ever, unto the end. 112
- Double-minded men I hate ;
But thy law I love. 113
 Thou art my hiding-place and my shield :
In thy word I hope. 114
 Depart from me ye who do evil ;
For I will keep the commandments of my God. 115
 Uphold me according to thy word, that I may live ;
And make me not ashamed of my expectation. 116
 Support me and I shall be saved ;
And I will regard thy statutes continually. 117
 Thou rejectest all those who wander from thy statutes ;
For their deceit is falsehood. 118
 Thou accountest all the wicked of the land as dross ;
Wherefore I love thy statutes. 119
 My flesh trembleth through dread of thee ;
And I am afraid of thy judgments. 120

- 121 Thou doest judgment and righteousness :
Leave me not to those who oppress me.
- 122 Be a surety for thy servant for good ;
Let not the proud oppress me.
- 123 Mine eyes fail for thy salvation,
And for thy righteous promise.
- 124 Deal with thy servant according to thy loving-kindness,
And teach me thy statutes.
- 125 I am thy servant ; give me understanding,
That I may know thy testimonies.
- 126 It is time for thee to execute *judgment*, O Jehovah :
They make void thy law.
- 127 Therefore I love thy commandments
More than gold, and fine gold.
- 128 Therefore all *thy* precepts I account altogether right :
I hate every false way.
- 129 Thy testimonies are wonderful :
Therefore my soul keepeth them.
- 130 The opening of thy word enlighteneth,
Giving understanding to the simple.
- 131 I open my mouth, and I pant ;
Because I long for thy commandments.
- 132 Look to me, and be gracious to me,
As is just to those who love thee.
- 133 Establish my steps by thy word ;
And let not any iniquity have dominion over me.
- 134 Redeem me from the oppression of man,
That I may keep thy precepts.
- 135 Cause thy face to shine upon thy servant ;
And teach me thy statutes.
- 136 Rivers of waters run down *from* mine eyes,
Because they keep not thy law.
- 137 Righteous art thou, O Jehovah,
And upright are thy judgments.
- 138 Thou hast commanded righteousness in thy testimonies,
And perfect truth.
- 139 My zeal consumeth me ;
Because my adversaries forget thy words.
- 140 Thy word is very pure ;
Therefore thy servant loveth it.
- 141 Mean am I and despised ;

- Thy precepts I do not forget. 142
 Thy righteousness is everlasting righteousness,
 And thy law is truth. 143
 Distress and anguish have overtaken me ;
 Thy commandments are my great delight. 143
 The righteousness of thy testimonies is everlasting :
 Cause me to understand, that I may live. 144
- I call with my whole heart ; 145
 Answer me, O Jehovah : I keep thy statutes.
 I call to thee ; save me, 146
 Since I observe thy testimonies.
 I prevent the dawn and cry : 147
 In thy word I hope.
 My eyes prevent the night-watches, 148
 While I meditate in thy word.
 Hear my voice, according to thy loving-kindness, O Jehovah : 149
- Revive me according to thy judgments.
 They draw near who follow after mischief : 150
 They are far removed from thy law.
 Thou art near, O Jehovah, 151
 And all thy commandments are truth.
 Of old I have known respecting thy testimonies, 152
 That thou hast founded them for ever.
- See my affliction and deliver me ; 153
 For I do not forget thy law.
 Plead my cause and redeem me : 154
 Revive me according to thy promise.
 Salvation is far from the wicked : 155
 For thy statutes they seek not.
 Thy compassions are many, O Jehovah : 156
 According to thy judgments, revive me.
 Many are my persecutors and my adversaries ; 157
 From thy testimonies I do not decline.
 I see transgressors and loathe *them*, 158
 Because they keep not thy word.
 See how I love thy precepts ; 159
 O Jehovah, according to thy loving-kindness, revive me.
 The beginning of thy word is truth, 160
 And all thy righteous judgments are for ever.

- 161 Princes persecute me without cause :
But my heart is in awe of thy word.
- 162 I rejoice in thy promise,
As one who findeth great spoil.
- 163 Falsehood I hate and abhor ;
Thy law I love.
- 164 Seven times in the day I praise thee,
On account of thy righteous judgments.
- 165 Great peace have they who love thy law,
And nothing causeth them to stumble.
- 166 I expect thy salvation, O Jehovah,
And I do thy commandments.
- 167 My soul observeth thy testimonies,
And I love them exceedingly.
- 168 I observe thy precepts and thy testimonies :
Surely all my ways are before thee.
- 169 Let my cry come before thee, O Jehovah :
Make me to understand, according to thy word.
- 170 Let my supplication come before thee :
According to thy promise, deliver me.
- 171 My lips shall utter praise,
When thou shalt have taught me thy statutes.
- 172 My tongue shall speak of thy promise ;
For all thy commandments are just.
- 173 Let thy hand help me ;
For thy precepts I have chosen.
- 174 I have desired thy salvation, O Jehovah,
And thy law is my delight.
- 175 Let my soul live, and it shall praise thee,
And let thy judgments help me.
- 176 I am wandering as a lost sheep ; seek thy servant ;
For thy commandments I forget not.

PSALM CXX.

An Ode of Ascents.

- 1 To Jehovah in my distress
I called, and he answered me.
O Jehovah, deliver me
From a lying lip, from a deceitful tongue.
- 3 What shall be given to thee,
Or what gain shalt thou have, thou false tongue ?

Sharp arrows of a strong man, 4
 And brands of broom-wood.
 Alas for me that I should sojourn in Mesech, 5
 That I should dwell with the tents of Kedar !
 Too long have I dwelt 6
 With those who hate peace.
 I am for peace, but, when I speak, 7
 They are for war.

PSALM CXXI.

An Ode of Ascents.

I WILL lift up mine eyes to the mountains, 1
 Whence cometh my help.
 My help cometh from Jehovah, 2
 Who made the heavens and the earth.
 He will not suffer thy foot to be moved : 3
 He slumbereth not who keepeth thee.
 Lo, he slumbereth not, neither doth he sleep, 4
 Who keepeth Israel.
 Jehovah keepeth thee ; 5
 Jehovah is thy shade on thy right-hand.
 The sun shall not smite thee by day, 6
 Nor the moon by night.
 Jehovah shall keep thee from every evil ; 7
 He shall keep thy life.
 Jehovah shall keep thy going out, and thy coming in, 8
 From this time and for ever.

PSALM CXXII.

An Ode of Ascents, by David.

I REJOICED when it was said unto me, 1
 "Let us go to the house of Jehovah."
 May our feet stand 2
 Within thy gates, O Jerusalem !
 Jerusalem is builded 3
 As a city compacted together.
 Thither go up the tribes, 4
 The tribes of Jehovah, as a testimony to Israel,
 To give thanks to the name of Jehovah.
 For there are set the thrones of judgment, 5
 The thrones of the house of David.

- 6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem :
May they prosper who love thee !
- 7 Peace be within thy walls !
Prosperity within thy palaces !
- 8 For the sake of my brethren and friends,
I will now say, Peace be within thee !
- 9 For the sake of the house of Jehovah our God,
I will seek good for thee.

PSALM CXXIII.

An Ode of Ascents.

- 1 To thee I lift up mine eyes,
Who dwellest in the heavens.
- 2 Lo, as the eyes of servants *look* to the hand of their
masters,
As the eyes of a maid-servant, to the hand of her
mistress,
So our eyes *look* to Jehovah our God,
Till he shall be gracious to us.
- 3 Be gracious to us, O Jehovah, be gracious to us :
For we are greatly filled with contempt.
- 4 Our soul is greatly filled
With the derision of those who are at ease,
With the contempt of the proud.

PSALM CXXIV.

An Ode of Ascents, by David.

- 1 HAD it not been Jehovah who was for us,
May Israel now say ;
- 2 Had it not been Jehovah who was for us,
When men rose up against us,
- 3 Then would they have swallowed us up alive,
When their anger was hot against us :
- 4 Then would the waters have overwhelmed us,
The torrent would have passed over our soul :
- 5 Then would the proud waters
Have passed over our soul.
- 6 Blessed be Jehovah,
Who hath not given us a prey to their teeth.

Our soul, like a bird, hath escaped
From the snare of the fowlers : 7
The snare is broken, and we have escaped.
Our help is in the name of Jehovah,
Who made the heavens and the earth. 8

PSALM CXXV.

An Ode of Ascents.

THEY who trust in Jehovah shall be like mount Zion : 1
It cannot be moved, it remaineth for ever.
Mountains are about Jerusalem, 2
And Jehovah is about his people,
From this time and for ever.
For the rod of the wicked shall not rest 3
Upon the lot of the righteous ;
Lest the righteous should put forth their hands to iniquity.
Do good, O Jehovah, to the good, 4
And to the upright in their hearts.
But those who turn aside into their crooked paths 5
Jehovah will destroy with the workers of iniquity.
Peace be on Israel !

PSALM CXXVI.

An Ode of Ascents.

WHEN Jehovah turned again the captivity of Zion, 1
We were as those who dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter, 2
And our tongue with shouting.
Then they said among the nations,
“ Jehovah hath done great things for them.”
Jehovah hath done great things for us : 3
We rejoice.
Turn again our captivity, O Jehovah, 4
As torrents in the south.
May they who sowed in tears 5
Reap in joy !
May he who went out weeping, 6
Bearing a cast of seed,
Come back with shouting,
Bringing in his sheaves.

PSALM CXXVII.

An Ode of Ascents, by Solomon.

- 1 If Jehovah build not the house,
In vain do they labour who build it :
If Jehovah keep not the city,
In vain doth he watch who keepeth it.
- 2 Vain is it for you to rise up early,
To go late to rest,
To eat the bread of sorrows :
Truly He giveth to his beloved sleep.
- 3 Lo, sons are an inheritance of Jehovah ;
The fruit of the womb, a reward.
- 4 As arrows in the hand of a strong man,
Are the sons of the youthful.
- 5 Happy the man, who hath filled his quiver with them :
They shall not be ashamed when they plead with their
enemies at the gate.

PSALM CXXVIII.

An Ode of Ascents.

- 1 HAPPY is every one who feareth Jehovah ;
Who walketh in his ways.
- 2 The labour of thy hands thou shalt surely eat :
Happy shalt thou be, and *it shall be* well with thee.
- 3 Thy wife shall be like a fruitful vine,
In the inner chambers of thy house :
Thy sons like olive plants,
Around thy table.
- 4 Lo, surely thus shall the man be blessed
Who feareth Jehovah.
- 5 Jehovah will bless thee from Zion,
And thou shalt behold the good of Jerusalem,
All the days of thy life.
- 6 And thou shalt see thy children's children.
Peace be on Israel.

PSALM CXXIX.

An Ode of Ascents.

- 1 MUCH have they afflicted me from my youth,
May Israel now say :
- 2 Much have they afflicted me from my youth,

Yet have they not prevailed against me. 3
 The ploughers have ploughed on my back ;
 They made long their furrows. 4
 Jehovah is righteous :
 He hath cut asunder the cords of the wicked. 5
 Ashamed and turned back
 Be all those who hate Zion ! 6
 May they be like grass upon the house tops,
 Which withereth before it is plucked up ! 7
 With which the reaper filleth not his hand,
 Nor he that bindeth sheaves, his bosom ;
 Neither do they who are passing by say,
 “The blessing of Jehovah be upon you ! 8
 We bless you in the name of Jehovah.”

PSALM CXXX.

An Ode of Ascents.

FROM the depths I cry to thee, O Jehovah. 1
 O Jehovah, hear my voice ; 2
 Let thine ears attend to the voice of my supplications.
 If thou shouldest observe iniquities, O Jehovah, 3
 O Jehovah, who could stand ?
 But with thee is forgiveness, 4
 That thou mayest be revered.
 I wait for Jehovah, my soul waiteth, 5
 And in his word I hope.
 My soul watcheth for the Lord 6
 More than they who watch for the morning ;
 Than they who watch for the morning. 7
 Let Israel rely on Jehovah ;
 For with Jehovah is loving-kindness,
 And with him abundant redemption.
 And he will redeem Israel 8
 From all his iniquities.

PSALM CXXXI.

An Ode of Ascents, by David.

O JEHOVAH, my heart is not haughty, 1
 Nor are mine eyes lofty ;
 Neither do I employ myself in great things,
 Or in things too wonderful for me.

- 2 Truly I have composed and quieted my spirit,
As a weaned child towards its mother :
As a weaned child is my spirit within me.
- 3 Let Israel rely on Jehovah,
From this time and for ever.

PSALM CXXXII.

An Ode of Ascents.

- 1 JEHOVAH, remember David,
All his afflictions ;
- 2 Who sware to Jehovah,
Who vowed to the Mighty One of Jacob ;
- 3 “I will not enter my house,
I will not go up to my bed ;
- 4 I will not give sleep to mine eyes,
Slumber to mine eyelids,
- 5 Till I have found a place for Jehovah,
A habitation for the Mighty One of Jacob.”
- 6 Lo, we have heard of it at Ephratah ;
We have found it in the field of the forest.
- 7 Let us go to his habitation :
Let us bow down at his footstool.
- 8 Arise, O Jehovah, into thy rest ;
Thou and the ark of thy power.
- 9 May thy priests be clothed with righteousness !
And may thy holy ones shout aloud !
- 10 For the sake of David thy servant,
Turn not away the face of thine anointed.
- 11 Jehovah hath sworn truth unto David ;
He will not turn back from it ;
“Of the fruit of thy body I will set *one* on thy throne.
- 12 If thy sons will keep my covenant,
And my testimonies which I shall teach them,
Their sons also, for ever
Shall sit upon thy throne.
- 13 For Jehovah hath chosen Zion :
He hath desired it for his dwelling.
- 14 This shall be my resting-place for ever :

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Here I will dwell ; for I have desired it. 1
Her provision I will greatly bless ; 15
Her poor I will satisfy with bread ;
Her priests I will clothe with salvation, 16
And her holy ones shall shout aloud.
There I will make the horn of David to shoot forth : 17
I will prepare a lamp for mine anointed.
His enemies I will clothe with shame : 18
But upon himself his crown shall flourish."

PSALM CXXXIII.

An Ode of Ascents, by David.

Lo, how good and how pleasant 1
Is the dwelling of brethren together !
As the precious oil on the head, 2
That flowed down on the beard, the beard of Aaron ;
That flowed down on the border of his garment :
As the dew of Hermon, 3
As that which descends on the mountains of Zion.
For there Jehovah commandeth his blessing,
Life for evermore.

PSALM CXXXIV.

An Ode of Ascents.

BEHOLD, bless ye Jehovah, 1
All ye servants of Jehovah,
Who stand in the house of Jehovah by night.
Lift up your hands towards the sanctuary, 2
And bless ye Jehovah.

May Jehovah bless thee from Zion ; 3
He who made the heavens and the earth !

PSALM CXXXV.

PRAISE ye Jehovah, 1
Praise ye the name of Jehovah ;
Praise him, ye servants of Jehovah.
Ye who stand in the house of Jehovah, 2
In the courts of the house of our God.
Praise ye Jehovah, for Jehovah is good : 3
Sing ye to his name ; for it is pleasant.

- 4 For Jehovah hath chosen Jacob for himself,
Israel for his peculiar possession.
- 5 Truly I know that Jehovah is great,
And that our Lord is above all gods.
- 6 All that Jehovah pleaseth he doeth,
In the heavens and in the earth,
In the seas, and in all deep places ;
- 7 Causing clouds to ascend from the end of the earth ;
Making lightnings with rain ;
Bringing forth the wind from his treasures.
- 8 He it was who smote the first-born of Egypt,
Both of man and of beast ;
- 9 Who sent signs and wonders
In the midst of thee, O Egypt,
Upon Pharaoh and upon all his servants.
- 10 Who smote many nations,
And slew mighty kings ;
- 11 Sihon king of the Amorites,
And Og king of Bashan,
And all the kingdoms of Canaan,
- 12 And gave their land for an inheritance,
An inheritance to Israel his people.
- 13 O Jehovah, thy name is for ever ;
O Jehovah, thy remembrance to all generations.
- 14 For Jehovah will decide the cause of his people,
And will repent concerning his servants.
- 15 The idols of the nations are silver and gold,
The work of the hands of man.
- 16 They have a mouth, but they cannot speak ;
They have eyes, but they cannot see ;
- 17 They have ears, but they cannot hear ;
A nose, *but* there is no breath in their mouth.
- 18 They who make them are like unto them ;
So is every one who trusteth in them.
- 19 O house of Israel, bless ye Jehovah :
O house of Aaron, bless ye Jehovah :
- 20 O house of Levi, bless ye Jehovah :
Ye who fear Jehovah, bless Jehovah.
- 21 Blessed be Jehovah from Zion,
Who dwelleth at Jerusalem.
Praise ye Jehovah.

PSALM CXXXVI.

GIVE thanks to Jehovah, for he is good ;	1
For his loving-kindness <i>endureth</i> for ever.	
Give thanks to the God of gods ;	2
For his loving-kindness <i>endureth</i> for ever.	
Give thanks to the Lord of lords ;	3
For his loving-kindness <i>endureth</i> for ever.	
To him who doeth great wonders alone ;	4
For his loving-kindness <i>endureth</i> for ever.	
To him who made the heavens by wisdom ;	5
For his loving-kindness <i>endureth</i> for ever.	
To him who spread out the earth by the waters ;	6
For his loving-kindness <i>endureth</i> for ever.	
To him who made great lights ;	7
For his loving-kindness <i>endureth</i> for ever :	
The sun to rule by day ;	8
For his loving-kindness <i>endureth</i> for ever :	
The moon and the stars to rule by night ;	9
For his loving-kindness <i>endureth</i> for ever.	
To him who smote the Egyptians in their first-born ;	10
For his loving-kindness <i>endureth</i> for ever :	
And brought out Israel from among them ;	11
For his loving-kindness <i>endureth</i> for ever :	
With a strong hand and with an outstretched arm ;	12
For his loving-kindness <i>endureth</i> for ever.	
To him who parted the Red Sea into parts ;	13
For his loving-kindness <i>endureth</i> for ever :	
And caused the Israelites to pass over through the midst of it ;	14
For his loving-kindness <i>endureth</i> for ever :	
But overthrew Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea ;	15
For his loving-kindness <i>endureth</i> for ever.	
To him who led his people through the wilderness ;	16
For his loving-kindness <i>endureth</i> for ever.	
To him who smote great kings ;	17
For his loving-kindness <i>endureth</i> for ever :	
And slew mighty kings ;	18
For his loving-kindness <i>endureth</i> for ever :	
Sihon king of the Amorites ;	19
For his loving-kindness <i>endureth</i> for ever :	
And Og king of Bashan ;	20
For his loving-kindness <i>endureth</i> for ever :	
And gave their land for an inheritance ;	21

- For his loving-kindness *endureth* for ever :
- 22 An inheritance to Israel his servant ;
For his loving-kindness *endureth* for ever.
- 23 Who remembered us when we were brought low ;
For his loving-kindness *endureth* for ever :
- 24 And rescued us from our adversaries ;
For his loving-kindness *endureth* for ever.
- 25 Who giveth food to all flesh ;
For his loving-kindness *endureth* for ever.
- 26 Give thanks to the God of the heavens ;
For his loving-kindness *endureth* for ever.

PSALM CXXXVII.

- 1 By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down ;
We wept when we remembered Zion.
- 2 Upon the willows in the midst of it
We hanged our harps.
- 3 For there they who had carried us away captives required
of us a song ;
And they who had made us to wail *required* joy ; *saying*,
“Sing us one of the songs of Zion.”
- 4 “How can we sing a song of Jehovah
In a foreign land ?”
- 5 If I forget thee, O Jerusalem,
May my right-hand forget *its skill* !
- 6 May my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth,
If I do not remember thee ;
If I prefer not Jerusalem above my chief joy !
- 7 Remember, O Jehovah, the sons of Edom,
In the day of Jerusalem ;
Who said, “Rase, rase *it*,
Even to its foundation.”
- 8 O daughter of Babylon, who art to be destroyed,
Happy he who requitesthe thee
As thou hast served us !
- 9 Happy he who seizeth and dasheth
Thy little ones against the stones !

PSALM CXXXVIII.

A Psalm of David.

- I WILL praise thee, O Jehovah, with my whole heart : 1
 Before the gods I will sing praise to thee.
 I will worship at thy holy temple, 2
 And I will give thanks to thy name,
 For thy loving-kindness and thy faithfulness ;
 For thou hast magnified thy name above all *others*, by thy word.
 In the day when I called, thou answeredst me : 3
 Thou hast increased strength in my soul.
 All the kings of the earth shall praise thee, O Jehovah, 4
 When they hear the words of thy mouth.
 And they shall sing of the ways of Jehovah ; 5
 For great is the glory of Jehovah.
 Although Jehovah is high, yet he looketh on the lowly ; 6
 Although he is exalted, he knoweth him from afar.
 When I walk in the midst of trouble, thou revivest me ; 7
 Thou puttest forth thy hand against the anger of mine enemies,
 And thou savest me with thy right-hand.
 Jehovah will complete what concerneth me.
 O Jehovah, thy loving-kindness *endureth* for ever :
 The work of thy hands desert not.

PSALM CXXXIX.

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.

- O JEHOVAH ! thou hast searched me, and known me. 1
 Thou knowest my down-sitting and mine up-rising ; 2
 Thou understandest my thoughts from afar.
 Thou surroundest my path and my bed, 3
 And art acquainted with all my ways.
 When there is not a word on my tongue, 4
 Lo, O Jehovah, thou knowest it perfectly.
 Thou inclosest me behind and before, 5
 And layest thy hand upon me.
 Thy knowledge is too wonderful for me ; 6
 It is high, I cannot attain unto it.
 Whither can I go from thy spirit ? 7
 Or whither can I flee from thy presence ?
 If I should ascend the heavens, thou art there ; 8

And if I should make my bed in the lower world, lo, thou art there.

- 9 Should I take the wings of the morning,
Should I dwell in the farthest part of the sea ;
- 10 Even there thy hand would lead me,
And thy right-hand would hold me.
- 11 Should I say, surely darkness will conceal me ;
Even the night would be light about me.
- 12 Even darkness maketh nothing dark to thee ;
But the night enlighteneth as the day :
Darkness is *to thee* as light.
- 13 Truly thou possessest my reins :
Thou coveredst me in my mother's womb.
- 14 I will give thanks to thee, for I am fearfully, wonderfully made :
Wonderful are thy works,
And my soul knoweth it right well.
- 15 My substance was not hidden from thee,
When I was made in secret,
And wrought like embroidery in the lowest parts of the earth.
- 16 Thine eyes saw my unshapen substance,
And in thy book were all its parts written,
The days in which they should be formed,
When there was not one of them.
- 17 How precious, therefore, are my thoughts of thee, O God !
How great is the sum of them !
- 18 Should I count them, they would be more than the sand :
When I awake, I am still with thee.
- 19 Oh that thou wouldest slay the wicked, O God !
And that men of blood would depart from me ;
- 20 Who speak against thee wickedly :
Thine adversaries utter *thy name* to falsehood.
- 21 Do I not hate them, O Jehovah, who hate thee,
And do I not contend with those who rise up against thee ?
- 22 I hate them with perfect hatred :
They are enemies to me.
- 23 Search me, O God, and know my heart ;
Prove me, and know my thoughts ;

And see if the way of sorrow be in me,
And lead me in the way everlasting.

24

PSALM CXL.

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.

DELIVER me, O Jehovah, from the evil men ;	1
From the men of violence defend me,	2
Who devise evil things in their heart :	
Every day they are exciting wars.	
They sharpen their tongues as the serpent ;	3
The poison of the asp is under their lips.	
Keep me, O Jehovah, from the hands of the wicked ;	4
From the men of violence defend me,	
Who are devising to supplant my steps.	
The proud have hidden a snare for me and toils :	5
They have spread a net by the way-side :	
Traps they have set for me.	
I said to Jehovah, ‘Thou art my God :’	6
Hear, O Jehovah, the voice of my supplication.	
O Jehovah, my Lord, the strength of my safety !	7
Thou coverest my head in the day of battle.	
Grant not, O Jehovah, the desires of the wicked man ;	8
Prosper not his wicked purpose.	
Surrounding me, they raise their head :	9
Let the trouble of their own lips cover them.	
Let flakes of fire be hurled upon them :	10
Let them be cast down by fire,	
Into deep waters, that they rise not up again.	
Let not the slanderer be established in the land :	11
Let evil hunt the man of violence, to drive him headlong.	
I know that Jehovah will maintain the cause of the afflicted,	12
The right of the poor.	
Surely the righteous will give thanks to thy name :	13
The upright shall dwell in thy presence.	

PSALM CXLI.

A Psalm of David.

O JEHOVAH, I call to thee, hasten to me :
Listen to my voice when I call to thee.

2

- 2 Let my prayer be esteemed as incense before thee,
The lifting up of my hands, as the evening-offering.
3 Set a watch, O Jehovah, at my mouth ;
Guard thou the door of my lips.
4 Let not my heart incline to an evil thing,
To do evil deeds wickedly, with men that work iniquity ;
Nor let me eat of their dainties !
5 Let a righteous man smite me ; *it will be* kindness ;
And let him reprove me, *it will be* oil for the head ;
Nor shall my head turn away, though *he do it again* ;
But my prayer is against their wickedness.
6 Their judges were dismissed by the sides of the rock ;
And they heard my words, that they were pleasant.
7 As when one cutteth and cleaveth wood on the ground
Our bones are scattered at the mouth of the grave.
8 But to thee, O Jehovah, my Lord, are mine eyes ;
In thee I trust ; leave me not defenceless.
9 Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me,
And from the toils of those who do iniquity.
10 Let the wicked fall together into their own nets,
Whilst I pass by *them*.

• PSALM CXLII.

A Poem, by David.

A Prayer when he was in the cave.

- 1 WITH my voice I cry to Jehovah ;
With my voice I make supplication to Jehovah.
2 I pour forth my complaint before him ;
My distress I declare before him.
3 When my spirit fainteth within me,
Then thou knowest my path.
In the way in which I go,
They have hidden a snare for me.
4 I look on my right-hand and see,
But there is no one that knoweth me :
Refuge faileth me ;
No one careth for my soul.
5 I cry to thee, O Jehovah :
I say, Thou art my refuge,
My portion in the land of the living.
6 Attend to my cry ;

For I am brought very low :
 Deliver me from those who pursue me ;
 For they are stronger than I.
 Bring my soul out of prison,
 To give thanks to thy name.
 The righteous shall encompass me,
 When thou shalt have recompensed me.

7

PSALM CXLIII.

A Psalm of David.

O JEHOVAH, hear my prayer,
 Listen to my supplication.
 In thy faithfulness answer me, in thy righteousness ;
 And come not into judgment with thy servant ;
 For no one living can be just before thee.
 For the enemy pursueth me ;
 He smiteth my life to the ground ;
 He maketh me to dwell in dark places, as the dead of old ;
 And my spirit fainteth within me ;
 My heart within me is astonished.
 I remember the days of old ;
 I meditate on all thy deeds ;
 I muse on the work of thy hands.
 I spread forth my hands to thee :
 My soul, like a weary land, *thirsteth* for thee.
 Speedily answer me, O Jehovah ; my spirit fainteth :
 Hide not thy face from me,
 Nor let me be like those who are going down to the pit.
 Make me to hear thy loving-kindness in the morning ;
 For in thee I trust ;
 Make me to know the way in which I should walk ;
 For to thee I lift up my soul.
 Deliver me from mine enemies, O Jehovah :
 To thee I fly for shelter.
 Teach me to do what is acceptable to thee ;
 For thou art my God.
 Let thy good Spirit lead me in a plain path.
 For the sake of thy name, O Jehovah, revive me :
 In thy righteousness bring me out of distress ;
 And in thy kindness cut off mine enemies,
 And destroy all who distress my soul ;
 For I am thy servant.

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PSALM CXLIV.

A Psalm of David.

- 1 BLESSED be Jehovah, my rock !
Who instructeth my hands for fight,
My fingers for battle :
- 2 My loving-kindness, and my fortress ;
My high-tower, and my deliverer ;
My shield, and he in whom I trust ;
Who subdueth peoples under me.
- 3 O Jehovah, what is man that thou shouldst acknowledge
him,
And the son of man that thou shouldst attend to him ?
- 4 Man, who is like a vapour ;
Whose days are as a passing shadow.
- 5 O Jehovah, bow thy heavens and come down ;
Touch the mountains, that they smoke.
- 6 Flash forth lightnings and scatter them :
Send forth thine arrows and discomfit them.
- 7 Send forth thy hand from on high ;
Deliver me and rescue me from great waters,
From the hand of the sons of the foreigner ;
- 8 Whose mouth speaketh vanity,
And whose right-hand is a right-hand of falsehood.
- 9 O God, a new song will I sing to thee :
Upon a lute of ten strings will I sing praise to thee ;
- 10 Who giveth salvation to kings ;
Who delivereth David his servant from the hurtful sword.
- 11 Deliver me and rescue me from the power of the sons of
the foreigner,
Whose mouth speaketh vanity ;
- 12 And whose right-hand is a right-hand of falsehood :
That our sons may be like plants,
Growing up in their youth ;
Our daughters like corner-pillars,
Hewn for the structure of a palace :
- 13 Our granaries filled,
Sending forth store after store ;
Our flocks bringing forth thousands,
Ten thousands in our fields :
- 14 Our oxen bearing loads ;
No breaking in, no going out ;
Nor any clamour in our streets.

Happy the people that is in such a state !
Happy the people whose God is Jehovah !

15

PSALM CXLV.

A Psalm of Praise, by David.

I WILL extol thee, my God, O King ; 1
And I will bless thy name for ever and ever.
Every day will I bless thee, 2
And I will praise thy name for ever and ever.

Great is Jehovah, and greatly to be praised : 3
And his greatness is unsearchable.
Generation to generation shall praise thy deeds, 4
And declare thy mighty acts.
Of the glorious honour of thy majesty, 5
And of thy wonderful works, I will speak.
That men may speak of the might of thine awful deeds ; 6
Therefore will I declare thy greatness.
They shall pour forth the memory of thine abundant good- 7
ness,
And sing of thy righteousness.

Gracious and compassionate is Jehovah ; 8
Slow to anger, and of great loving-kindness.
Jehovah is good unto all ; 9
And his compassion is over all his works.

All thy works shall praise thee, 10
And thy holy ones shall bless thee.
They shall celebrate the glory of thy kingdom, 11
And shall speak of thy power ;
To make known to the sons of men thy mighty acts, 12
And the glorious majesty of thy kingdom.
Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, 13
And thy dominion *endureth* to all generations.
Jehovah upholdeth all that are falling, 14
And raiseth up all that are bowed down.

The eyes of all are fixed on thee, 15
And thou givest them their meat in its season.
Thou openest thy hand, 16
And satisfiest the desire of every living thing.

- 17 Jehovah is righteous in all his ways,
And merciful in all his doings.
 18 Jehovah is near to all who call upon him,
To all who call upon him in truth.
 19 He fulfilleth the desire of those who fear him ;
And their cry he heareth, and saveth them.
 20 Jehovah preserveth all who love him ;
But all the wicked he will destroy.
 21 My mouth shall speak the praise of Jehovah ;
And let all flesh bless his holy name
For ever and ever.

PSALM CXLVI.

- 1 PRAISE ye Jehovah.
Praise Jehovah, O my soul.
 2 I will praise Jehovah while I live :
I will sing praise to my God while I have yet a being.
 3 Put not trust in princes,
In the son of man, in whom is no safety.
 4 His spirit goeth forth, he returneth to his dust ;
In that very day his purposes perish.
 5 Happy he whose helper is the God of Jacob,
Whose hope is in Jehovah his God !
 6 Who made the heavens and the earth,
The sea, and all that is in them ;
Who keepeth truth for ever ;
 7 Who executeth judgment for the oppressed ;
Who giveth food to the hungry.
Jehovah looseth the prisoners :
 8 Jehovah openeth *the eyes* of the blind :
Jehovah raiseth those who are bowed down :
Jehovah loveth the righteous :
 9 Jehovah preserveth the strangers ;
The orphan and the widow he raiseth up,
But the way of the wicked he turneth aside.
 10 Jehovah shall reign for ever,
Thy God, O Zion, to all generations.
Praise ye Jehovah.

PSALM CXLVII.

- 1 PRAISE ye Jehovah :
For it is good to sing praise to our God ;

- For it is pleasant, *and* praise is becoming.¹
 2
 Jehovah buildeth again Jerusalem :
 The dispersed of Israel he gathereth together.²
 He healeth those who are broken in heart,³
 And bindeth up their wounds.
 He counteth the number of the stars ;⁴
 He calleth all of them by names.
 Great is our Lord, and mighty in power :⁵
 His understanding is infinite.
 Jehovah raiseth up the meek :⁶
 He bringeth down the wicked to the ground.
 Sing to Jehovah with thanksgiving ;⁷
 Sing praise upon the harp to our God ;
 Who covereth the heavens with clouds,⁸
 Who prepareth rain for the earth,
 Who maketh grass to grow upon the mountains.
 He giveth to the cattle their food,⁹
 To the young ravens who cry.
 He delighteth not in the might of the horse ;¹⁰
 Nor hath he pleasure in the legs of a man.
 Jehovah hath pleasure in those who fear him,¹¹
 In those who hope in his loving-kindness.
 O Jerusalem, praise thou Jehovah ;¹²
 Praise thy God, O Zion.
 For he strengtheneth the bars of thy gates ;¹³
 He blesseth thy sons within thee.
 He maketh thy boundaries peaceful ;¹⁴
 With the finest wheat he satisfieth thee.
 He sendeth forth his command on the earth :¹⁵
 His word runneth very swiftly.
 He giveth snow like wool ;¹⁶
 He scattereth the hoar-frost like ashes ;
 He casteth forth his ice like morsels ;¹⁷
 Before his cold who can stand ?
 He sendeth forth his word, and melteth them :¹⁸
 He causeth his wind to blow, the waters flow.
 He maketh known his word to Jacob,¹⁹
 His statutes and his judgments to Israel.
 He doeth not thus to any *other* nation ;
 And *his* judgments, they know them not.
 Praise ye Jehovah.

PSALM CXLVIII.

Praise ye Jehovah.

- 1 PRAISE ye Jehovah from the heavens :
Praise ye him in the heights.
 - 2 Praise ye him, all his angels :
Praise ye him, all his hosts.
 - 3 Praise ye him, sun and moon :
Praise ye him, all stars of light :
 - 4 Praise ye him, heavens of heavens ;
And *ye* waters which are above the heavens.
 - 5 Let these praise the name of Jehovah ;
For he commanded, and they were created ;
 - 6 And he hath established them for ever and ever :
He hath appointed a statute which shall not pass away .
 - 7 Praise Jehovah from the earth ;
Sea-monsters, and all depths :
 - 8 Lightning and hail, snow and vapour ;
Stormy wind performing his word :
 - 9 Mountains and all hills ;
Fruit-bearing trees, and all cedars :
 - 10 Wild beasts and all cattle ;
Reptiles, and flying birds :
 - 11 Kings of the earth, and all peoples ;
Princes and all judges of the earth :
 - 12 Young men and also maidens ;
Old men and children.
 - 13 Let these praise the name of Jehovah ;
For his name alone is exalted ;
His glory, above the earth and the heavens.
 - 14 And he exalteth the horn of his people,
The praise of all his holy ones ;
Of the children of Israel, a people near to him.
- Praise ye Jehovah.

PSALM CXLIX.

Praise ye Jehovah.

- 1 SING ye to Jehovah a new song,
His praise in the congregation of his holy ones .
- 2 Let Israel rejoice in his Maker :

Let the sons of Zion exult in their King. 3
 Let them praise his name with the pipe:
 With the timbrel and the harp let them sing praise to
 him.
 For Jehovah is favourable to his people: 4
 He hath beautified the meek with salvation.
 Let his holy ones exult in *their* glory; 5
 Let them sing aloud on their couches.
 Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, 6
 And a two-edged sword in their hand,
 To execute vengeance on the nations, 7
 Chastisements on the peoples;
 To bind their kings with chains, 8
 And their nobles with fetters of iron;
 To execute upon them the judgment written. 9
 This honour have all his holy ones.
 Praise ye Jehovah.

PSALM CL.

Praise ye Jehovah.
 PRAISE God in his sanctuary: 1
 Praise him in the firmament of his power.
 Praise him for his mighty deeds: 2
 Praise him according to the extent of his greatness.
 Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: 3
 Praise him with the psalter and the harp:
 Praise him with the timbrel and the pipe: 4
 Praise him with stringed instruments and pipes:
 Praise him with the softer cymbals: 5
 Praise him with the loud cymbals.
 Let every thing that breatheth praise Jehovah. 6
 Praise ye Jehovah.

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